

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1156273

Details

Other names	SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, GOLD HILL MUSEUM
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-03-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Gold Hill Museum Sun & Moon Cottage 1 Gold Hill Shaftesbury SP7 8JW
Phone	01747 852157
Email	enquiries@goldhillmuseum.org.uk
Website	www.goldhillmuseum.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS TO ENCOURAGE THE APPRECIATION, STUDY AND ENJOYMENT OF HISTORY, ESPECIALLY THAT LOCAL TO SHAFTESBURY AND ITS ENVIRONS, AND THEREBY ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY AND THE PUBLIC OF ALL AGES AND BACKGROUNDS BY, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, (A) OPERATING A MUSEUM OF ARTEFACTS WHICH REFLECT THE HISTORY OF THE AREA AND (B) MAINTAINING A LIBRARY OF BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS OF LOCAL HISTORICAL INTEREST

Activities: The Society owns and operates Gold Hill Museum which is open to the public for seven months of the year; mounts two temporary exhibitions each year in addition to the regular displays; owns and maintains a local history library and archive available by arrangement for research; organises lectures in the winter; organises with the Abbey Museum an all-age learning and outreach programme

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Dorset
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£51,771	£59,003	-	-
2024-03-31	£37,022	£42,771	-	-
2023-03-31	£33,133	£30,907	-	-
2022-03-31	£35,322	£21,870	-	-
2021-03-31	£33,422	£24,480	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ELAINE BARRATT	Chair	2014-01-21
Ann Symons		2024-08-20
David Hardiman		2020-09-24
Elizabeth Hack		2022-08-23
Jeanette Hardiman		2023-08-24
John Brian Arnold		2026-03-12
Juliet Gordon		2025-08-19
Rupert William Tapper		2021-08-24
SHEENA COMMONS		2014-01-21
Tony Martin		2021-08-24

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1156273

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1156273

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Ward Goodman Audit Services Ltd
4 Cedar Park
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 7SF

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

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The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Miss Jeanette Hardiman
Mr Tony Martin
Mr Rupert William Tapper
Mr Ian Kellett
Mrs Sheena Commons
Mrs Elaine Barratt
Mr David Hardiman
Mrs Elizabeth Hack
Mrs Ann Symons

Charity Registration Number

1156273

Principal Office

Gold Hill Museum
Sun & Moon Cottage
1 Gold Hill
Shaftesbury
SP7 8JW

Independent Examiner

Ward Goodman Audit Services Ltd
4 Cedar Park
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 7SF

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The object of the CIO is to encourage the appreciation, study and enjoyment of history, especially that local to Shaftesbury, Dorset, and its environs, and thereby advance the education of members of the Society and of the public of all ages and background by, in particular but not exclusively: (a) operating a museum of artefacts which reflect the history of the area and (b) maintaining a library of books and documents of local historical interest.

The Society:

- owns, maintains and operates Gold Hill Museum which is open to the public daily for at least seven months of the year with free admission
 - mounts at least two temporary exhibitions each year in addition to the regular displays
 - owns and maintains a local history library and archive which is open to members and the general public for research purposes
- by appointment at agreed times throughout the year
- organises and holds lectures in the winter which may be attended by non-members on payment of a small fee.
 - Shares a learning and outreach education programme with the Abbey Museum.

The society was operated entirely by volunteers for the whole year. The volunteers made a huge contribution covering every aspect of the operation. Not only do the trustees appreciate the considerable, willing, hours of input but also the general public is impressed by their contribution as can be seen in our visitor comments book and comments on-line. The public sees the stewards during their visit but there are, of course, considerable inputs by volunteers behind the scenes such as those who maintain the building, labour in the garden, work with the collection or the archive and library, put up the displays, produce and publish the newsletter, apply for funding as appropriate, ensure compliance with current legal requirements, update the website, take part in research with the local community, organise the all-age and lifelong learning activities and organise the winter lectures.

The Society operates published Volunteer; Safeguarding; Disability Discrimination; Equal Opportunities; Health & Safety; Education; Exhibition & Display; Financial Control; Lifelong Learning; Acquisition & Disposal; Care & Conservation; Collections Development; Environmental; Access; Data Protection Policies as well as Emergency; Resource; Audience Development; Forward Plans, Security Review, and a Documentation Procedural Manual covering accessioning and disposal of gifts and loans, all of which are updated to schedule.

The Society is a member of AIM (the Association of Independent Museums), the South-West Federation of Museums and Art Galleries, the Dorset Museums Association, the North Dorset Museums Group and is accredited with ACE (Arts Council England).

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and performance

Charitable activities

Management

The Trustees held 12 committee meetings when they delivered reports on their respective responsibilities. Sub-groups met as necessary to deal with matters such as Collections, Archives, Library and Exhibitions.

Museum opening, shop and gardens

The museum opened on Saturday 23 March closing on Sunday 3 November. It also opened for the town's Snowdrop Festival during February half-term. The gift shop has a wide selection of souvenirs, the majority of which are made locally, and is a good source of income. Because we do not charge for entry, we rely on the generosity of our visitors who numbered 19,357, back to pre-Covid levels. Shop purchases and donations provide a large part of our income. Our gardener, with occasional help from one other, continued to work steadily and reliably throughout the year, for which many thanks.

The Collection

The Collection team have continued to document all items in the storeroom. This is very long term and will take time as each item has to be checked that the paper work is in order and entered correctly in Modes. In addition each item is now being photographed and entered into Modes. This takes time but we are hoping that the system will speed up in the future. There has been a slow trickle of donations of various kinds. We only accept gifts. One Gift of note was a Shaftesbury Penny Gifted by Phil Proctor. Also various items of old baby clothes and school uniforms. We look forward to moving some items from our current storeroom into the new storeroom in the new extension.

In summary a successful year.

Display

For 2024, the display mounted in our small exhibition room was 'Made in Shaftesbury'. As well as Shaftesbury itself, this was extended to include all the villages in the museum's catchment area. A lot of research in our library and archives produced a large list of businesses from farms to brickworks. Items manufactured ranged from buttons to gloves to bricks to flour produced in the local water mills. Flour is still produced today by the water mill in Cann which continues to work. This was an interesting exercise and a lot was discovered about our local area. The Viking display from the previous year was taken down and replaced with a display about the Shaftesbury High School for girls. This includes various items of uniform, badges, photos, the original school sign and an image of the blue plaque on the gate. The temporary archive exhibition about King Alfred's Middle School was adapted to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the school closure in 2004. This was followed by a display of early tourist guides to the town. In advance of the new season an exhibition of material produced by High House Press in the 1920s and 1930s was unveiled in February during the half term holiday.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Trustees' Report (continued)

The Library/Archive

The archives team of 10 volunteers has continued to sort, catalogue and conserve the collection and enter new items, received as donations. They have dealt with enquiries via the museum website and through prearranged visits.

Much of the printed material has now been catalogued and the Brenda Innes archive integrated where appropriate. Attention has therefore been given to the digitisation of the colour slides in the collection. The slides have been placed in acid free folders and the scans saved and organised on the museum computer system.

As part of the museum expansion additional storage space has been created with the removal of the office from the library. An order has been placed for two rows of shelving, funded by the Swans Trust. Monitoring of the atmospheric conditions in the library has continued. Humidity levels and temperatures are now satisfactory following the installation of a portable air conditioner. The Librarian attended a consultation event at Gillingham Museum and learned about the user engagement project being carried out in the town and surrounding villages by the Local History Society.

Membership

Membership at the end of March 2025 was around 130.

Magazine

The Society's annual newsletter was the biggest yet and received much praise. However, the weight of it meant that the postage cost for the 31 members who do not live in the immediate area was considerable.

Information Technology

Andy Hargreaves, a local IT expert, continues to lend support pro bono.

Outreach

The "Shaftesbury Remembers" website continues to grow and now includes the biographical details of 1622 individuals from the local area who served in the First World War. Most of these records have now been updated using data from the 1921 Census. Enquiries and appreciation have been received from as far afield as New Zealand, Australia, Canada and the United States. The Edwardian Shaftesbury and Edwardian Villages slide shows of Albert Tyler photographs were presented to the Rotary Club, the Trefoil group, Motcombe Grange residents, St John's Church coffee morning, and to residents and their families at St Denis Lodge. Museum volunteers have also held twelve Reminiscence Afternoons at Shaftesbury Library this year, with an average attendance of 10.

The Lecture and Events Programme

The varied programme of Winter lectures attracted good audiences throughout. Thanks to the ongoing publicity provided by Alfred Radio and on our own website, several non-members, some of whom joined the Society, attended each. In September twenty-four Society members enjoyed the hospitality and knowledge of local historian Martin Shalcross, including a visit to Tisbury parish church.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Trustees' Report (continued)

The Buildings

The museum's last fire assessment having been carried out at the time of its redevelopment and extension back in 2011, a Fire Safety Consultant was instructed and following a lengthy meeting between the Chairman, Buildings Manager and the consultant in his survey of the building and its existing fire safety arrangements; his report and recommendations were received, most of his recommendations were actioned, which included a visit and inspection by Shaftesbury Fire Brigade in May.

Having received an Insurance surveyor's report, a recommendation was made that remote signalling be incorporated into our existing fire alarm system. This was successfully installed in July. Regarding two windows above the Garden room, a local carpenter satisfactorily repaired them. The floors of reception and rooms 1 & 2 were re-painted prior to the April re-opening date. The Chairman and Building Manager met the Architect at his office April, when it was recommended that the museum should take charge of the Sun and Moon Cottage project and appoint our own builder to see the project through to completion. The architect had obtained planning and building regulations consent and provided specifications and drawings. A suitable builder was appointed, and the work progressed throughout the year to a satisfactory conclusion. The work included extensive alterations, which included painting and decorating the premises and extending the CCTV and intruder alarm systems. A separate ongoing problem was rainwater ingress from above the entrance door to the new shop. It was established that this was due to a leaking sill in the window above the door. This was satisfactorily rectified, together with repairs to a gutter, air vent and drainage downpipes. The temperature in the library could be oppressive and unbearably hot at times for those who work there. A solution was required. A free-standing unit providing temperature control was purchased, installed and plumbed into a hole in the rear wall, through which it exhausts and drains. It is working well, and the team are satisfied with the solution to their problem. The gutters were cleared in February. The museum's windows were cleaned externally in March. We had no power surge protection in place for the various electrical devices throughout the museum. This has been rectified through the purchase of power surge extension cables. Air conditioning was serviced in March. The fire alarm system was satisfactorily serviced in March.

Marketing and Communications

The Gold Hill Museum website continues to be the main engine of publicity for Society activities, supported by the invaluable output of Shaftesbury's own radio station Alfred. Gold Hill Museum continues to be publicised in a tourist leaflet published jointly with the Abbey Museum and Gardens, in a Museums Trail leaflet featuring several North Dorset museums, and in a Town Guide map sold at the Tourist Information Centre installed inside the Morrisons Daily Supermarket.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Trustees' Report (continued)

Financial review

Donations/ Shop Sales

The museum was open 1st April to 31st October and February half-term. Therefore, income from Donations and Shop sales are as follows.

Donations Cash and Cheque £11,656.81

Donations Card £2,684.30

Donations Gift Aid £8,145.00

Donations Churn £698.86

Donations SH Books £209.53

Shop sales £2,674.59 net:

Goods Sold £9,894.93

Goods Purchased £7,220.34

Donations have increased thanks to very kind contributions from members towards the building works.

2024-25 April - October 2024 and February 25 Adults 17,225 Children 2,132

2023-24 April - October 2023 February/March 24 Adults 18,101 Children 2,107

Grants

£300.00 Museums Advisory Service

Bank Balances

The bank balances have dwindled due to the ongoing building work: -

Community Account £8,331.13

Business Money Manager £21,821.53

M&G investment £48,995.05

The work to merge the Sun and Moon Cottage into the museum and upgrade the cottages electrics, extend the fire alarm and security system cost £59,370.45 to the end of March 2025 which includes the monies paid to the architects at the end of the previous year.

Gift Aid

The Gift Aid claim is processed in the following year. So will be claimed in 2025-26.

The Gift Aid claim for the year ending 31 March 2024 was £2,302.80.

General Remarks

Repairs/ Maintenance Costs £5,404.37 over and above the new works

Library Refurbishment £559.92

British Gas Electric - We have renewed the contract and have a Fixed Term Contract to 23 October 2027.

The Museum has no loans and none of the Museum's assets (building and collection) is used as collateral. The Museum has just one site which is owned by the Society and the accounts cover all financial activity at that site. Our investment policy is based on the principle of caution using a deposit account and a Charfund investment at present. The Trustees thank all our donors, including our members, the general public and local businesses and groups, for their generosity. We also thank those local and regional businesses which offer concessional rates, and those businesses who turn up at short notice to help us out in an emergency.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Trustees' Report (continued)

Policy on reserves

The annual fixed costs (rates, insurance, utilities, maintenance contracts) of running the Museum are in the region of £10,000. If the Museum must close for any reason we still have these bills to pay with the additional concern of the proposed increase in fuel prices and its knock-on effect. The lift is necessary for enabling full access and would be expensive to replace. Substantial repairs to the fabric of the building may be needed at some time in the future. The Trustees have estimated a figure of 5% of the rebuild value plus £10,000 annual fixed costs as the contingency reserve.

At the year end the charity held free reserves of £79,299 (2024: £111,655). Free reserves are calculated by deducting unrestricted fixed assets from unrestricted reserves.

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

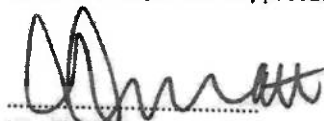
We plan to open on Tuesday 1 April for a normal season. Two society members have mounted an exciting temporary exhibition of archaeological finds as a result of one of them strolling along a path, just outside Shaftesbury, and noticing a flint object. There will also be a display for the 80th anniversary commemoration of VE/VJ Days. The library and archives department has mounted an exhibition of the High House Press, a significant publishing company in the town's history, using the display unit now opposite the First-Floor lift entrance. This area has proved an excellent opportunity for the department to display material from its collection.

Structure, governance and management

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Volunteers, including new trustees, have a short induction on first arrival. Further training is ongoing within role, including any external training courses which may become available. A comprehensive Stewards' Guide, containing procedures and relevant policies, is readily available to all volunteers; stewards are required to sign an annual declaration that they have read it. No trustees or other volunteers receive any remuneration or other benefits. Role descriptions for all trustees and other volunteers are available. DBS checks are only made if appropriate.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 14.8.25 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Elaine Barratt
Trustee

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

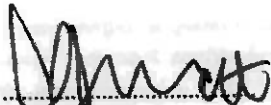
The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 14.8.25 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Elaine Barratt
Trustee

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr T G Froud ACA

Ward Goodman Audit Services Ltd
4 Cedar Park
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 7SF

Date: 15/08/2025

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		29,998	-	29,998	17,705
Charitable activities		21,773	-	21,773	19,317
Total income		<u>51,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,771</u>	<u>37,022</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		(21,268)	(4,306)	(25,574)	(32,405)
Other expenditure	4	(37,735)	-	(37,735)	-
Total expenditure		<u>(59,003)</u>	<u>(4,306)</u>	<u>(63,309)</u>	<u>(32,405)</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		(7,232)	(4,306)	(11,538)	4,617
Gross transfers between funds		(528)	528	-	-
Net movement in funds		(7,760)	(3,778)	(11,538)	4,617
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,031,561	8,465	1,040,026	1,035,409
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>1,023,801</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>1,028,488</u>	<u>1,040,026</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 15.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

(Registration number: 1156273)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9	807,878	-	807,878	787,282
Heritage assets	10	<u>136,624</u>	-	<u>136,624</u>	<u>132,624</u>
		<u>944,502</u>	-	<u>944,502</u>	<u>919,906</u>
Current assets					
Stocks	11	9,605	-	9,605	5,098
Debtors	12	5,766	-	5,766	3,392
Investments		48,995	-	48,995	44,241
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>25,586</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>30,273</u>	<u>68,525</u>
		89,952	4,687	94,639	121,256
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(10,653)</u>	-	<u>(10,653)</u>	<u>(1,136)</u>
Net current assets		<u>79,299</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>83,986</u>	<u>120,120</u>
Net assets		<u>1,023,801</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>1,028,488</u>	<u>1,040,026</u>
Funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds					
Restricted funds				4,687	8,465
Unrestricted income funds					
Unrestricted funds				<u>1,023,801</u>	<u>1,031,561</u>
Total funds	15			<u>1,028,488</u>	<u>1,040,026</u>

The financial statements on pages 10 to 20 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 14.8.25 and signed on their behalf by:



Mrs Elaine Barratt
Trustee

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Legal form

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society is a charitable incorporated organisation, incorporated in England and Wales. The principal address is shown on page 1 of these financial statements.

2 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Heritage assets

To meet the requirements of the SORP, disclose the policy for acquisition, preservation, management and disposal of heritage assets.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Furniture and equipment - 10 years straight line

Computer equipment - 5 years straight line

The Sun and Moon Cottage, and Land and buildings are not depreciated.

Impairment of fixed assets

Intangible and tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when changes in circumstances or events indicate that the carrying value of the fixed assets may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying value.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Current asset investments

Current asset investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value / market value.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if they do not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	27,395	15,901
Gift aid reclaimed	2,303	1,804
Grants, including capital grants;		
Grants from other charities	300	-
	29,998	17,705

4 Other expenditure

	Total 2025 £
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	37,735
	37,735

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Independent examiner fees		
Examination of the financial statements	1,200	252
	1,200	252

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

There were no expenses or benefits paid to trustees in the period covered by these financial statements.

7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

8 Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		13,018	4,687	17,705
Charitable activities		<u>19,317</u>	-	<u>19,317</u>
Total income		<u>32,335</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>37,022</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities		<u>(27,685)</u>	<u>(4,720)</u>	<u>(32,405)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(27,685)</u>	<u>(4,720)</u>	<u>(32,405)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>4,650</u>	<u>(33)</u>	<u>4,617</u>
Net movement in funds		4,650	(33)	4,617
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,026,911</u>	8,498	<u>1,035,409</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>1,031,561</u>	<u>8,465</u>	<u>1,040,026</u>

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Sun and Moon Cottage £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2024	675,000	95,757	10,907	5,618	787,282
Additions	-	3,306	1,273	53,752	58,331
Written down value	-	(21,630)	(9,940)	(250)	(31,820)
At 31 March 2025	675,000	77,433	2,240	59,120	813,793
Depreciation					
Charge for the year	-	5,336	579	-	5,915
At 31 March 2025	-	5,336	579	-	5,915
Net book value					
At 31 March 2025	675,000	72,097	1,661	59,120	807,878
At 31 March 2024	675,000	95,757	10,907	5,618	787,282

10 Heritage assets

	Heritage assets £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2024		
Additions	132,624	132,624
	4,000	4,000
At 31 March 2025	136,624	136,624
Depreciation		
At 31 March 2025	-	-
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	136,624	136,624

11 Stock

	2025 £	2024 £
Stocks	9,605	5,098

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	435	2,651
Prepayments	5,331	721
Other debtors	-	20
	<u>5,766</u>	<u>3,392</u>

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash on hand	120	681
Cash at bank	30,153	67,844
	<u>30,273</u>	<u>68,525</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	7,582	264
Accruals	3,071	872
	<u>10,653</u>	<u>1,136</u>

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General funds	1,031,561	46,673	(53,905)	(528)	1,023,801
Total unrestricted funds	1,031,561	46,673	(53,905)	(528)	1,023,801
Restricted funds					
HLF	337	-	(337)	-	-
Scharfarik Legacy	3,377	-	(3,377)	-	-
In Praise of Wood Exhibition	(528)	-	-	528	-
Small Grant Big Project	146	-	(146)	-	-
Blackmore Vale Dairy	446	-	(446)	-	-
Swans Trust	4,687	-	-	-	4,687
	8,465	-	(4,306)	528	4,687
Total funds	1,040,026	46,673	(58,211)	-	1,028,488

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General Funds	1,026,911	29,715	(25,065)	1,031,561
Restricted funds				
HLF	337	-	-	337
Scharfarik Legacy	8,097	-	(4,720)	3,377
In Praise of Wood Exhibition	(528)	-	-	(528)
Small Grant Big Project	146	-	-	146
Blackmore Vale Dairy	446	-	-	446
Swans Trust	-	4,687	-	4,687
	8,498	4,687	(4,720)	8,465
Total funds	1,035,409	34,402	(29,785)	1,040,026

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

A transfer has taken place between the General fund and the In Praise of Wood fund in order to cover an overspend in previous years.

Purposes of restricted funds

- HLF - To be spent on Shaftesbury Remembers the Great War project
- Schafarik Legacy - To be spent on building works
- In Praise of Wood Exhibition - To be spent on in praise of wood exhibition
- Small Grant Big Improvement - To be spent on library improvements
- Blackmore Vale Dairy - To be spent on advertising costs
- Swans Trust - To be spent for publications

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	807,878	-	807,878
Heritage assets	136,624	-	136,624
Current assets	89,952	4,687	94,639
Current liabilities	(10,653)	-	(10,653)
Total net assets	1,023,801	4,687	1,028,488
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	787,282	-	787,282
Heritage assets	132,624	-	132,624
Current assets	112,791	8,465	121,256
Current liabilities	(1,136)	-	(1,136)
Total net assets	1,031,561	8,465	1,040,026

17 Related party transactions

Within the year ended 31 March 2025, one trustee and their family members (2024: 0) donated a total of £2,000 to the charity (2024: £nil).

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1156273

Accounts

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date			Period end date			
From	01	April	2023	To	31	March	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Other names charity is known by Gold Hill Museum or the S&DHS

Registered charity number (if any) 1156273

Charity's principal address

Gold Hill Museum
1-2 Gold Hill
Shaftesbury
Postcode SP7 8JW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Elaine Barratt	Chair/Stewards/ Shop Manager		Membership
2	Sheena Commons	Vice Chair/Display/ Collection Care		Membership
3	David Hardiman	Buildings		
4	Ian Kellett	Secretary/Lectures/ Marketing		Membership
5	Anthony Martin	Collection Care		Membership
6	Mark Smith	Fund raising	Apr 23 to May 23	Membership
7	Rupert Tapper	Archive/Library		Membership
8	Liz Hack	Treasurer		Membership
9	Jeanette Hardiman	Shop	August 23	Membership
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bank	HSBC	19 Minster Street, Salisbury SP1 1TE
Solicitor	Rutter	2 Bimport, Shaftesbury SP7 8JG
Accountant	Andrews & Palmer	32 The Square, Gillingham SP8 4AR

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO Association Constitution last amended 5 April 2016
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation of approximately 110 members
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees must be members of the Society, elected by its members. One third of existing trustees retire each year and may stand for re-election. Trustees are elected at the AGM held in August following the end of the financial year. Trustees have the power to co-opt as necessary.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Volunteers, including new trustees, have a short induction on first arrival. Further training is ongoing within role, including any external training courses which may become available.

A comprehensive Stewards' Guide, containing procedures and relevant policies, is readily available to all volunteers; stewards are required to sign an annual declaration that they have read it. No trustees or other volunteers receive any remuneration or other benefits.

Role descriptions for all trustees and other volunteers are available. DBS checks are only made if appropriate. The Society operates published Volunteer; Safeguarding; Disability Discrimination; Equal Opportunities; Health & Safety; Education; Exhibition & Display; Financial Control; Lifelong Learning; Acquisition & Disposal; Care & Conservation; Collections Development; Environmental; Access; Data Protection Policies as well as Emergency; Resource; Audience Development; Forward Plans, Security Review, and a Documentation Procedural Manual covering accessioning and disposal of gifts and loans, all of which are updated to schedule. The Society is a member of AIM (the Association of Independent Museums), the South-West Federation of Museums and Art Galleries, the Dorset Museums Association, the North Dorset Museums Group and is accredited with ACE (Arts Council England).

The intruder and fire alarms, fire extinguishers, heating system, lift, and CCTV are held on routine service contracts.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is to encourage the appreciation, study and enjoyment of history, especially that local to Shaftesbury, Dorset, and its environs, and thereby advance the education of members of the Society and of the public of all ages and background by, in particular but not exclusively: (a) operating a museum of artefacts which reflect the history of the area and (b) maintaining a library of books and documents of local historical interest.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. It has informed our decisions on opening hours, free entry to the Museum, temporary exhibitions, all age and lifelong learning, cooperation with other groups in the area and communication with the local community.

The Society:

- owns, maintains and operates Gold Hill Museum which is open to the public daily for at least seven months of the year with free admission
- mounts at least two temporary exhibitions each year in addition to the regular displays
- owns and maintains a local history library and archive which is open to members and the general public for research purposes by appointment at agreed times throughout the year
- organises and holds lectures in the winter which may be attended by non-members on payment of a small fee.
- Shares a learning and outreach education programme with the Abbey Museum.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making;
- policy programme related investment.
- contribution made by volunteers.

The society was operated entirely by volunteers for the whole year. The volunteers made a huge contribution covering every aspect of the operation. Not only do the trustees appreciate the considerable, willing. hours of input but also the general public is impressed by their contribution as can be seen in our visitor comments book and comments on-line. The public sees the stewards during their visit but there are, of course, considerable inputs by volunteers behind the scenes such as those who maintain the building, labour in the garden, work with the collection or the archive and library, put up the displays, produce and publish the newsletter, apply for funding as appropriate, ensure compliance with current legal requirements, update the website, take part in research with the local community, organise the all-age and lifelong learning activities and organise the winter lectures.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Management

The Trustees held 11 committee meetings when they delivered reports on their respective responsibilities. Sub-groups met as necessary to deal with matters such as Collections, Archives, Library and Exhibitions.

Museum opening, shop and gardens

The museum opened on Saturday 1 April closing on 31 October. It also opened for the town's Snowdrop Festival during February half-term and for the last week in March as Easter was early in 2024.

The gift shop has a wide selection of souvenirs, the majority of which are made locally, and is a good source of income. Because we do not charge for entry, we rely on the generosity of our visitors who normally numbered 20,000 per annum pre-pandemic closedown; at 18,600 this season, numbers are slowly recovering. Shop purchases and donations provide a large part of our income.

Our one gardener, with occasional help from two others, has continued to work steadily and reliably throughout the year, for which many thanks. The garden received a Certificate of Excellence from Britain in Bloom, South and South East.

The Collection

The collection team are continuing with the task of registering all artefacts that are in the museum storeroom to ensure that the correct paperwork is up to date. They are also making sure that this corresponds with the Modes entry and if not entered that this is done. The aim is also to load on modes photos of all artefacts. This is the long-term aim and will take time

During the period covered by this report the following items have been gifted to the Museum:

- 1 A John Farris Cheese Press. This is quite a large piece of machinery consisting of metal castings on a wooden frame. This is on permanent display in room two
- 2 A pair of replica Patten wooden over shoes
- 3 An Icosahedron. This is a small metal object used for writing hand bell ringing music.

Display

In 2022 for the 200th anniversary of the sale of Fonthill Abbey, near Shaftesbury, in 1822-23, Gold Hill Museum hosted an exhibition in our small exhibition room, to be called 'Fonthill Fever'. Using sale catalogues, guide books, prints and souvenirs plus a model of the Abbey, it showed how the Fonthill sales gripped the public imagination. We left this display up for 2023 to cover both years of the sale.

We also mounted a small, new exhibition about the Vikings and their connection with Shaftesbury. For this we used replica costume, jewellery and artefacts with information boards and posters about how they lived, the food they ate, the games they played and what the interior of their houses may have looked like as well as a timeline to show how they related to our town.

In 2023 the museum purchased two new display cases so the old cases were emptied, and the artefacts stored until they could be moved into their new homes. This also gave us an opportunity to refresh the displays.

The Library/Archive

The archives team of 12 volunteers has continued to sort, catalogue and conserve the collection and enter new items, received as donations. They have dealt with many enquiries via the museum website and through prearranged visits by researchers.

Having carried out an audit of the Brenda Innes archive, team members have devoted much of their time integrating the material into the existing collection. The archive of the business and personal records of the Harding family of plumbers in the High Street has been of particular interest. The two small filing cabinets purchased last year are now dedicated to material about the town of Shaftesbury, arranged by street name.

Gaps in the book collection have been filled with the acquisition of essential journals and books, most recently the two volumes of the Victoria History of the County of Dorset. The library catalogue now contains 1617 records, most of which now include keywords taken from the contents.

The Librarian has received training via Zoom on a range of topics: Preservation of Photographic Materials, Copyright Essentials, Collections Care Surgery x 3. Training sessions on the Modes cataloguing system are now recorded and are available online to our volunteers. The Modes Day & AGM provided information about future upgrades to the system, including an online version. Many Modes members voiced the opinion that the system needed to be more intuitive and simpler to use.

Monitoring of the atmospheric conditions in the library has continued. Humidity levels are now satisfactory following the installation of a dehumidifier. Although the temperatures in the library do not vary greatly, they are generally too high for sensitive items such as photographs and books. It also makes a difficult working environment for the volunteers, particularly in the summer. The purchase of an air conditioner is now in progress.

In October the 400 Tyler glass negatives previously digitized were taken to the Dorset History Centre for storage. A request was also made to view the sixteen boxes of documents that the museum left with the Centre in 2003, when storage facilities here were limited. The resulting impression was that an important part of the museum's collection is at present in Dorchester. Unfortunately, the staff at the Centre were unable to locate one box of photographs. The whereabouts of this box is being investigated.

Temporary archive exhibitions have been mounted about schools in Shaftesbury (Christy's, the Grammar School, the Girls High School and King Alfred's Middle School). Tea & Talks provided an opportunity to show SHDS members some of the work of early Shaftesbury photographers from the collection.

Membership

Membership at the end of March 2024 was around 130.

Magazine

The Society's annual newsletter was the biggest yet and received much praise. However, the weight of it meant that the postage cost for the 31 members who do not live in the immediate area was considerable.

Information Technology.

Andy Hargreaves, a local IT expert, continues to lend support pro bono.

Outreach

Regular, well-attended reminiscence sessions were held at the town library.

The Lecture and Events Programme

The Summer Outing in June, a guided tour on foot of the architectural curios of Swanage recycled from the City of London, benefitted from glorious weather and the meticulous preparation undertaken by its volunteer leaders. The insights provided by the Society's President and a former City colleague left the 25 participants viewing "Little London by the sea" in an entirely new light.

The Teulon Porter Memorial Lecture in October was also an outstanding success. An audience upwards of 110, more than half of whom were non-members, packed the Guild Hall to hear Professor James G. Clark of Exeter University overturn many conventional explanations of the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the South-West. Such was James's generosity that he then wrote a summary article for inclusion in the Society's latest *Byzant* magazine.

All the remaining guest speakers in the programme were equally expert in their fields and adept at communicating their ideas to appreciative and substantial audiences. Dr Vivien Newman shed new light on the impact on children of the 1914-18 War. Professor Colin Divall took the romanticism of steam out of the story of the Beeching era closure of the Somerset & Dorset Railway. Dr Amy Frost once again radiated enthusiasm for the redevelopment of Beckford's Tower and Museum, and for a modern retelling of the Beckford story. Professor Maria Hayward of Southampton University brought Queen Catherine of Braganza out of the shadow of her philandering husband King Charles II, whose escape through the southern counties after the 1651 Battle of Worcester had been the subject of a lively lecture in April 2023 by Paul Cordle.

The revival of Tea and Talks in February 2024 was also an unqualified success. Four members contributed a fund of new knowledge on three subjects, ranging over Shaftesbury photographer Elizabeth Upfield, the historical importance of local sheep farming, and Shaftesbury Abbey's farmhouses in the Nadder Valley. Their well-prepared presentations were followed by tea and cake.

The Buildings

Kitchen ceiling water ingress: a builder carried out investigative work in April to try and isolate the source of the ingress. Poor workmanship was exposed, which most likely led to the continual ingress of water over the 12 years since the garden room was constructed. The builder produced a report in which he proposed extensive work including repair and rectification to remedy the problem. The work progressed through the summer and in September a plasterer completed the re-rendering to the exterior wall and internal plastering.

Secondary glazing: was installed to the windows to the office and Byzant room.

Garden Room fascia board: the wooden fascia board around the outside of the Garden Room had rotted at one point and was in poor condition needing re-painting and repair. Replacing or covering with UPVC cladding was recommended and, due to the buildings Grade II listed status, an application for planning consent had been submitted to the local authority in February 2023. Following a site meeting in May, permission to proceed

was received from the Dorset Planning Department in July. The work was completed in September.

Sun & Moon Cottage: there has been an ongoing problem with the ingress of rainwater via the top of the existing entrance door, sometimes dripping onto people as they enter, and causing damage to the floor tiles at the entrance. In an effort to remedy this problem, a clear plastic canopy/awning was fitted above the entrance door.

Gutters: they were satisfactorily cleared in November.

Sun & Moon Cottage project: during 2023, it was decided to create an access from the museum into Sun & Moon Cottage, and to utilise the cottage as a new shop, office and additional artefact storage area. A firm of local Architects were instructed and, in January 2024, planning consent for the project was granted. Currently out to tender, we hope that the work will be completed by the end of 2024.

Air conditioning: following the unsatisfactory performance of the previous engineers, an alternative air conditioning company from Blandford satisfactorily serviced our air conditioning system in February.

Ground Floors: floors of reception and rooms 1 & 2 were re-painted prior to the March re-opening date.

Fire Risk Assessment: in February a survey of the building and its existing fire safety arrangements was carried out by a suitably qualified Fire Safety Consultant. His report and recommendations were received on 8 March and, as a result, appropriate action is being taken.

Marketing and Communications

The Gold Hill Museum website continues to be the main engine of publicity for Society activities, supported by the invaluable output of Shaftesbury's own radio station *Alfred*. Interviews with several of the speakers from the lecture series were broadcast, and the Society's trustees were well represented on the regular *Hilltop History* programme. Nineteen comprehensively illustrated and researched News Blogs were posted during the year, with links to the Society's Facebook page. Here it is also possible to share relevant posts from similar organisations, including *Alfred*. A typical total of unique visitors to the website remains 1200 a month, an average of 40 per day, with nearly 70 page views per day, but there are variable peaks and troughs. A News Blog anticipating the opening of the 2023 season with a temporary archival exhibition about a public-spirited local family attracted 110 hits the day after posting. On Facebook this reached 371 viewers, with an engagement level of 119. A post flagging the impending closure of this display, but with all-new content in the blog, reached nearly as many (348) and achieved even more engagement (133). The outright top scorer on Facebook (411) was a post linked to a News Blog anticipating the Teulon Porter Memorial Lecture on *The Dissolution of the Monasteries in the South-West*. The proportion of new visitors to the website is consistently around 97% with the vast majority from the UK. The Facebook page has received 780 likes and is followed by over 820, an increase of more than 25% on last year.

The content of the permanent pages on the website is regularly refreshed and augmented. The *Collection* page contains a growing mosaic of images and is always high in the Top Ten, along with *Facilities for Visitors* and *Find Us*. Also enjoying persistent popularity are *Four Hundred Years of Dorset Buttons* and *Thomas Hardy and Shaftesbury*. The main landing area of the *Home* page and each blog are well-served with links to other informative parts of the website.

A presence and link on the Beckford Society website attracted hits from those with a specialist interest in the *Fonthill Fever* exhibition, retained for a second season. The bi-centenary of the September 1823 public auction and its controversies was duly marked with a detailed blog. The Society renewed its silver package for a page on the Visit Dorset website, which incorporates feeds from TripAdvisor (generally very positive) and Facebook, and our own promotional video.

The “Shaftesbury Remembers” website now includes the biographical details of 1620 individuals from the local area who served in the First World War. Over the past year the main task has been the revision of existing entries as new information has become available, particularly from the 1921 Census. 40% have now been checked and adjusted. This S&DHS site offers a fund of information about all aspects of Life in and around Shaftesbury during the era of the Great War, and continues to attract regular email correspondence from family descendants seeking or offering updated information. There are also frequent compliments about the value of the information contained in the database. Some of it was used in the writing of the new Gold Hill Museum Guide, the preparation of which by a small team of volunteers was described in last year’s Annual Report. The 32-page, full-colour booklet was duly published in May 2023, and became a popular best seller in the Museum Shop. The key figure in the production team, photographer and graphic designer Alan Booth was rightly nominated for a Dorset Museums Volunteer of the Year Award.

Gold Hill Museum continues to be publicised in a tourist leaflet published jointly with the Abbey Museum and Gardens, in a Museums Trail leaflet featuring several North Dorset museums, and in a Town Guide map sold at the Tourist Information Hub installed inside the Morrisons Daily Supermarket.

A glossy 48-page edition of the Society’s annual magazine, the *Byzant*, was published in November 2023 and circulated to members. It included a report from the Chairman, minutes of the 2023 AGM, and a number of well researched and illustrated articles. Apart from a summary of the Teulon Porter Lecture generously provided by Professor Clark, there were substantial pieces on *Discovering the Peach Family; a New Museum Guide; A Dynasty of Shaftesbury Clockmakers; The Alfred Jewel; and Who Let the Bloodhounds Out?* All previous copies of the *Byzant* since December 2014 are available for reference on the Gold Hill Museum website.

Museum volunteers took their presentation on Albert Tyler’s Edwardian Shaftesbury photographs to St John’s church hall, Enmore Green and the Rotary Club. A new talk, featuring Tyler’s Edwardian Villages was presented as part of Shaftesbury Library’s Local History Month and repeated at the Royal British Legion, St John’s Enmore Green and the Rotary Club.

They have also held ten monthly Reminiscence Afternoons at Shaftesbury Library this year, on a variety of topics, the most popular being Photography, which had to be repeated due to the large number of contributions.

Finance

The year end bank account statements have been reconciled and the relevant Sage Account records and documents are ready for Andrews and Palmer Accountants in Gillingham for the Annual Examination for the Charities Commission.

Donations/ Shop Sales

The museum was open 1st April to 31st October and February half-term. Therefore, income from Donations and Shop sales are as follows.

Donations-Cash	£7,830.62	
Donations Card	£1,940.51	
Donations Gift Aid	£635.00	
Donations Churn	£621.15	
Donations SH Books	£186.95	
	£11,214.23	
Shop sales	£390.24 net.	Goods Sold £10,705.55
		Goods Purchased £10,315.31

Donations have increased helped by opening for February half-term and last week of March.

2023-24 April – October 2023 and February/March 24 Adults 18,101
Children 2,107
2022-23 April - October 2022 Adults 13,435 Children 1,564

Grants

None

Bank Balances

The bank balances have continued to be healthy and the balances: -

Community Account	£3,794.88
Business Money Manager	£64,049.41
M&G investment	£44,240.53 (the value increased slightly from Mar 23)

The Community Account balance is slightly lower as we paid the architects £4,265.90 at the end of the year for their work on the drawings and planning permissions for the shop work to happen in the 2024/25 year. So far including payments to Dorset Council for planning fees the project has cost £5,617.90

Gift Aid

The Gift Aid claim is generally processed in the following year. So will be claimed in 2024-25

The Gift Aid claim for the year ending 31 March 2023 was £1,804.02.

New Equipment

The balance was paid for the new display cases and these were delivered in August

General Remarks

Repairs/ Maintenance Costs	£2,761.76
Library Refurbishment	£490.58

British Gas Electric - We have a Fixed Term Contract to 23 October 2024.

<p>1. The first of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve the quality of the services we provide to our customers. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Customer Satisfaction The number of complaints received from customers has decreased by 15% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in the quality of our services. This is a result of our focus on listening to customer feedback and implementing changes to our processes and products.</p>
<p>2. The second of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our operational efficiency. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Operational Efficiency The number of hours spent on administrative tasks has decreased by 20% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our operational efficiency. This is a result of our focus on streamlining our processes and implementing automation tools.</p>
<p>3. The third of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our financial performance. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Financial Performance The number of new customers acquired has increased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our financial performance. This is a result of our focus on marketing and sales initiatives.</p>
<p>4. The fourth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our employee engagement. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Employee Engagement The number of employees who have completed our mandatory training has increased by 15% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our employee engagement. This is a result of our focus on providing training and development opportunities for our employees.</p>
<p>5. The fifth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our environmental performance. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Environmental Performance The number of tonnes of CO2 emissions reduced has increased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our environmental performance. This is a result of our focus on reducing our carbon footprint through various initiatives.</p>
<p>6. The sixth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our social performance. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Social Performance The number of community projects supported has increased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our social performance. This is a result of our focus on supporting local communities through various initiatives.</p>
<p>7. The seventh of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our governance. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Governance The number of governance-related incidents reported has decreased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our governance. This is a result of our focus on strengthening our governance framework.</p>
<p>8. The eighth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our risk management. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Risk Management The number of risk-related incidents reported has decreased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our risk management. This is a result of our focus on identifying and mitigating risks.</p>
<p>9. The ninth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our compliance. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Compliance The number of compliance-related incidents reported has decreased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our compliance. This is a result of our focus on ensuring that we are fully compliant with all applicable laws and regulations.</p>
<p>10. The tenth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our innovation. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Innovation The number of new products launched has increased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our innovation. This is a result of our focus on investing in research and development.</p>
<p>11. The eleventh of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our sustainability. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Sustainability The number of sustainability-related incidents reported has decreased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our sustainability. This is a result of our focus on reducing our environmental and social impact.</p>
<p>12. The twelfth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our digital transformation. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Digital Transformation The number of digital products launched has increased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our digital transformation. This is a result of our focus on investing in digital technologies.</p>
<p>13. The thirteenth of the three main areas of work identified in the Strategic Plan is to improve our overall performance. This is a key objective for the business and we have made significant progress in this area over the last year.</p>	<p>Overall Performance The number of key performance indicators (KPIs) met has increased by 10% over the last year, indicating a significant improvement in our overall performance. This is a result of our focus on achieving our strategic objectives.</p>

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The annual fixed costs (rates, insurance, utilities, maintenance contracts) of running the Museum are in the region of £10,000. If the Museum must close for any reason we still have these bills to pay with the additional concern of the proposed increase in fuel prices and its knock-on effect. The lift is necessary for enabling full access and would be expensive to replace. Substantial repairs to the fabric of the building may be needed at some time in the future. The Trustees have estimated a figure of 5% of the rebuild value plus £10,000 annual fixed costs as the contingency reserve.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Museum has no loans and none of the Museum's assets (building and collection) is used as collateral. The Museum has just one site which is owned by the Society and the accounts cover all financial activity at that site.

Our investment policy is based on the principle of caution using a deposit account and a Charifund investment at present.

The Trustees thank all our donors, including our members, the general public and local businesses and groups, for their generosity. We also thank those local and regional businesses which offer concessional rates, and those businesses who turn up at short notice to help us out in an emergency.

Section F Other optional information

We plan to open on Saturday 1 April for a normal season.

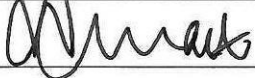
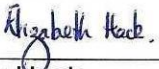
The library and archives department has mounted an exhibition of the Peach family (shop owners in Shaftesbury and Gillingham) using the display unit now opposite the First-Floor lift entrance. The unit was kindly offered by the Abbey Museum who no longer required it. This area will be an excellent opportunity for the department to display material from its collection.

Due to the popularity of the Fonthill Abbey exhibition we are planning to keep it for another year.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Elaine Barratt	Liz Hack
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer

Date 18th August 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CIO

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
AS SET OUT ON PAGES 15 & 16

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act
- have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 15-06-24

Name:

Mr P L Bevis

Relevant professional qualifications:

FCA FCCA

Address:

Andrews & Palmer Ltd, Chartered Accountants,
32 The Square, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4AR



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

1156273

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01-Apr-23	To	Period end date 31-Mar-24
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	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	11,214	4,687	-	15,901	10,606
Grants	-	-	-	-	500
Gift Aid	1,804	-	-	1,804	1,788
Lecture Income	449	-	-	449	198
Members' Subscriptions	1,440	-	-	1,440	1,373
Outings	-	-	-	-	250
Rental Income	2,317	-	-	2,317	6,000
Room Hire	3,225	-	-	3,225	4,670
Sales	10,705	-	-	10,705	7,405
Other Income	-	-	-	-	524
Interest	1,181	-	-	1,181	319
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	32,335	4,687	-	37,022	33,633
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	32,335	4,687	-	37,022	33,633
A3 Payments					
Admin & Office Supplies	704	-	-	704	846
Business Rates	128	-	-	128	1,062
Collection & Gallery	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Goods Sold	10,776	-	-	10,776	4,816
Display & Exhibitions	368	-	-	368	17
Education	-	-	-	-	42
Garden	-	-	-	-	-
Information Technology	673	-	-	673	918
Insurance	4,821	-	-	4,821	3,969
Marketing	1,104	-	-	1,104	1,641
Membership Events & Expenses	164	-	-	164	642
Outing	-	-	-	-	250
Repairs & Maintenance	3,109	4,720	-	7,829	8,136
Subscriptions	309	-	-	309	570
Utilities	4,778	-	-	4,778	3,332
Training	-	-	-	-	24
Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Accountancy	252	-	-	252	480
Website	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenditure	499	-	-	499	3,923
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	27,685	4,720	-	32,405	30,668
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Investment in Charifund	-	-	-	-	-
Shop change of use to Museum	5,618	-	-	5,618	-
Computer	728	-	-	728	-
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	4,020	-	-	4,020	239
Sub total	10,366	-	-	10,366	239
Total payments	38,051	4,720	-	42,771	30,907
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,716	- 33	-	- 5,749	2,726
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	65,776	8,498	-	74,274	71,548
Cash funds this year end	60,060	8,465	-	68,525	74,274

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	59,379	8,465	-
	Cash in Hand	681		-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	60,060	8,465	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Debtors	3,392	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Charifund Accumulation Units	Unrestricted	-	44,241
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Freehold Property	Unrestricted		675,000
	Fixtures & Fittings	Unrestricted	95,757	
	Computers	Unrestricted	10,907	
	Shop Change of use to Museum	Unrestricted	5,618	
	Heritage Assets	Unrestricted		132,624
	Stock	Unrestricted		5,098
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Creditors	Unrestricted	1,136	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		E. Barratt		
		L. Hack		

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1156273

Accounts

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	April	2022		31	March	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Postcode

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Elaine Barratt	Chair/Stewards/ Shop Manager		Membership
2	Sheena Commons	Vice Chair/Display/ Collection Care		Membership
3	David Hardiman	Buildings		
4	Ian Kellett	Secretary/Lectures/ Marketing		Membership
5	Anthony Martin	Collection Care		Membership
6	Mark Smith	Fund raising		Membership
7	Rupert Tapper	Archive/Library		Membership
8	Linda Wilton	Treasurer	To August 2022	Membership
9	Liz Hack	Treasurer	From August 2022	Membership
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bank	HSBC	19 Minster Street, Salisbury SP1 1TE
Solicitor	Rutter	2 Bimport, Shaftesbury SP7 8JG
Accountant	Andrews & Palmer	32 The Square, Gillingham SP8 4AR

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO Association Constitution last amended 5 April 2016
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation of approximately 90 members
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees must be members of the Society, elected by its members. One third of existing trustees retire each year and may stand for re-election. Trustees are elected at the AGM held in August following the end of the financial year. Trustees have the power to co-opt as necessary.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Volunteers, including new trustees, have a short induction on first arrival. Further training is ongoing within role, including any external training courses which may become available. A comprehensive Stewards' Guide, containing procedures and relevant policies, is readily available to all volunteers; stewards are required to sign an annual declaration that they have read it. No trustees or other volunteers receive any remuneration or other benefits. Role descriptions for all trustees and other volunteers are available. DBS checks are only made if appropriate. The Society operates published Volunteer; Safeguarding; Disability Discrimination; Equal Opportunities; Health & Safety; Education; Exhibition & Display; Financial Control; Lifelong Learning; Acquisition & Disposal; Care & Conservation; Collections Development; Environmental; Access; Data Protection Policies as well as Emergency; Resource; Audience Development; Forward Plans, Security Review, and a Documentation Procedural Manual covering accessioning and disposal of gifts and loans, all of which are updated to schedule. The Society is a member of AIM (the Association of Independent Museums), the South-West Federation of Museums and Art Galleries, the Dorset Museums Association, the North Dorset Museums Group and is accredited with ACE (Arts Council England).

The intruder and fire alarms, fire extinguishers, heating system, lift, and CCTV are held on routine service contracts.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is to encourage the appreciation, study and enjoyment of history, especially that local to Shaftesbury, Dorset, and its environs, and thereby advance the education of members of the Society and of the public of all ages and background by, in particular but not exclusively: (a) operating a museum of artefacts which reflect the history of the area and (b) maintaining a library of books and documents of local historical interest.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. It has informed our decisions on opening hours, free entry to the Museum, temporary exhibitions, all age and lifelong learning, cooperation with other groups in the area and communication with the local community.

The Society, during normal times:

- owns, maintains and operates Gold Hill Museum which is open to the public daily for at least seven months of the year with free admission
- mounts at least two temporary exhibitions each year in addition to the regular displays
- owns and maintains a local history library and archive which is open to members and the general public for research purposes by appointment at agreed times throughout the year
- organises and holds lectures in the winter which may be attended by non-members on payment of a small fee.
- organises a learning and outreach education programme for children and adults, parts of which are conducted with the Abbey Museum and Gardens

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making;
- policy programme related investment.
- contribution made by volunteers.

The society was operated entirely by volunteers for the whole year. The volunteers made a huge contribution covering every aspect of the operation. Not only do the trustees appreciate the considerable, willing. hours of input but also the general public is impressed by their contribution as can be seen in our visitor comments book and comments on-line. The public sees the stewards during their visit but there are, of course, considerable inputs by volunteers behind the scenes such as those who maintain the building, labour in the garden, work with the collection or the archive and library, put up the displays, produce and publish the newsletter, apply for funding as appropriate, ensure compliance with current legal requirements, update the website, take part in research with the local community and organise the all-age and lifelong learning activities.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Management

The Trustees held 11 committee meetings when they delivered reports on their respective responsibilities. Sub-groups met as necessary to deal with matters such as Collections, Archives, Library and Exhibitions.

Museum opening, shop and gardens

The museum opened on Friday 1 April for its first full season since 2019, closing on 31 October. There were staffing difficulties due to 'the Covid effect', apparently also experienced by other organisations, ie, having been restricted by Covid regulations, some volunteers were reluctant to commit to regular shifts as they wished to have the freedom to take last-minute breaks. However, as usual, other stewards always filled the gaps and we opened daily, as advertised, for the whole season.

The gift shop has a wide selection of souvenirs, the majority of which are made locally, and is a good source of income. Because we do not charge for entry, we rely on the generosity of our visitors who normally number 20,000 per annum; that number was down to 15,000 this season, however donation income was maintained. Shop purchases and donations provide a large part of our income.

A new shop manager stepped up with lots of ideas for products planned for the 2023-24 season. There's nothing like a new broom, and the Chairman breathed a sigh of relief as she handed over the role.

Our very small team of garden helpers has continued to work steadily and reliably throughout the year, for which many thanks. Although the museum was closed, access to the garden was made available during the town's Snowdrop Festival.

The Collection

Over the past year a few items have been gifted to the Museum by members of the public. This includes Old Shaftesbury Girls School hats and scarves, Dorset Owl Ceramic Pot, Grandfather Clock and Barometer to name a few. These have all been taken to account.

The space in the storeroom is now very restricted and larger gifts may have to be refused if offered.

The laptop is now set up and working in the storeroom enabling volunteers to access modes to bring all items to account or check they are on the account. Work sessions take place every month.

Two teams of two are now working on the collection updating and bringing items to account on Modes and in the accession register.

New pest monitors have been placed throughout the museum. Old ones showed no signs of hostile pests or infestations.

Display

2022 was the 400th anniversary of the Dorset button industry so Gold Hill Museum mounted a display to celebrate this event. Shaftesbury was an important focus of button making and buttons made here were sought after until the industry was mechanised. For this display we showcased items from the museum collection and were also loaned some items of clothing and modern button work illustrating the many ways that Dorset buttons can be used.

2022 was also the 200th anniversary of the sale of Fonthill Abbey, near Shaftesbury, in 1822-23 so Gold Hill Museum hosted an exhibition in our

small exhibition room, to be called 'Fonthill Fever'. Using sale catalogues, guide books, prints and souvenirs plus a model of the Abbey, it shows how the Fonthill sales gripped the public imagination.

Another major anniversary in 2022 was the platinum anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II. Gold Hill Museum mounted a small display with pictures and illustrations showing Elizabeth during the decades and the major events and many changes that had taken place during her lifetime.

The Library/Archive

In April last year all the boxes were moved back into the library and the contents conserved and listed. All the workers were shown how to enter data on the Modes database. Over the year our librarian has continued to coordinate much progress with the help of 10 volunteers. She composed a handbook to include all necessary help on using Modes as well as the vital policies for borrowing etc. from the library.

A volunteer sourced replacement copies of crucial volumes of journals and books which had somehow disappeared or been damaged over the years. Acquisitions also included a donation of the Britton and Rutter guides to Fonthill Abbey and a copy of the 1919 Shaftesbury sale catalogue with all maps included. We also received a collection of letters sent to the solicitor William Burridge in the 1820s-1840s. They are being transcribed.

Jeanette Hardiman won a DMA volunteer of the year award. She completed the job of entering key words in the database for all the books (over 1400). She is now working on the journals. Cataloguing work is now proceeding on the four large filing cabinets.

We have taken up to the library a large quantity of archives kindly given to us by the beneficiaries from Brenda Innes' house. Her collection is now being audited so that it can be merged with our collection. New filing cabinets have been bought to enlarge our storage capacity.

Membership

Membership at the end of March 2023 was around 130.

Magazine

A glossy 40-page edition of the Society's annual magazine, the *Byzant*, was published in November 2022 and circulated to members. It included a report from the Chairman, minutes of the 2022 AGM, an obituary for former trustee and local historian Brenda Innes, and a number of well researched and illustrated articles on Guy's Marsh Military Hospital, the architectural links between London and Dorset, the history of Shaftesbury's Savoy Cinema, and the ill-fated reign of King Henry VI. All previous copies of the *Byzant* since December 2014 are available for reference on the Gold Hill Museum website.

Information Technology

Andy Hargreaves, a local IT expert, continues to lend support pro bono.

Outreach

The "Shaftesbury Remembers" website continues to grow its coverage and now includes the biographical details of over 1600 individuals from the local area who served in the First World War. Many of these records are

regularly updated using information from relatives and new data available following the publication of the 1921 Census.

The volunteers have held ten monthly Reminiscence Afternoons at Shaftesbury Library this year, with an average attendance of 12.

The Lecture and Events Programme

Thankfully there were no Covid-induced interruptions to the programme. The well-attended 2022 AGM was followed by an enjoyable garden party in ideal conditions. The first Summer Outing since 2019 saw a select band of members undertake a truly privileged June visit to Beckford's Tower and Museum in Bath, since the Tower subsequently closed for renovations for all of 2023. The Curator, Dr Amy Frost, had already loaned artefacts to our 2022 *Fonthill Fever* Exhibition, including a magnificent scale model of Fonthill Abbey. In September Dr Frost brought her deep knowledge of and enthusiasm for Beckfordiana to the Town Hall for the annual Teulon Porter Memorial Lecture. She held an audience of over 60, including 24 non-members, spellbound as she explored the subject of *William Beckford after Fonthill – Building and Collecting in Bath*. Earlier in April, Sidney Blackmore, Secretary of the Beckford Society, had introduced his own Exhibition with a scholarly and diverting illustrated talk entitled *Fonthill Fever*.

The trend in attendances continued upwards of 40 as confidence returned to the idea of indoor events. Dr Rodney Atwood convinced his listeners that not all World War I generals were donkeys in *The Dorset Soldier Who Won The First World War*, while Dr James Ross (having braved erratic train services) upheld the argument for *Henry VI – England's Worst King?* Claire Ryley's and Ann Symons' presentation of *Photographs of Edwardian Shaftesbury* from the Society's own Tyler Collection was so popular that they agreed to put on a second free showing in February. This was also well-attended; indeed, some people saw it twice. February's other speaker, Helen Jouahri, provided a very different and lively perspective on *Joan of Arc*, the French contemporary of the young Henry VI. The Society's President, Sir John Stuttard, laid the foundations for a future expert-led outing to Swanage in his *London and Dorset: A Shared History in Construction*. By the end of the lecture season, all 50 of our chairs were being put out and occupied.

The Buildings

Further to last year's report, the re-pointing of the east boundary wall was satisfactorily completed on 27 July.

The gutters & areas of flat roof were cleared by Salisbury Guttering on the 28 October.

Although serviced by Ambient Engineering on 4 November and reported to be in good working order, a fault arose with the first-floor heating system in December. There are two power units in the courtyard one serving the ground floor, the other the first floor.

The Ambient Engineer was called out, spent over two hours investigating the problem and came to the conclusion that the most likely culprit was a mal-functioning 4-way valve in the power, however the only way to be

certain was to employ a Mitsubishi engineer with specialist equipment to visit and carry out a full analysis. After due consideration of cost options, the Trustees agreed to opt for a Mitsubishi engineer to diagnose the fault. He attended on the 15 February, and his report, received on the 21st, indicated that the fault was not caused by the 4-way valve, but lay with the power supply.

The two power units each have a wall-mounted isolator switch. The switch to the unit serving the upstairs fan units had suffered from corrosion due to the ingress of water during the last 11 years or so and, as a result, was faulty and the recommendation was to replace it. As the isolator switch to the power unit serving the ground floor fan units was identical, a qualified local electrician was able to attend on 2 March and asked to replace both power unit isolator switches; the upstairs heating was re-started in normal working order.

Although we still had to pay for the attendance of the Mitsubishi engineer and the electrician who installed the new isolator switches, the correct diagnosis saved us approximately £2,400, the estimated cost of installing a new 4-way valve.

During the heavy downpours there had been water ingress down the enclosed porch walls and reception doorway. Camelot Builders identified the problem as being with the lead flashing which was not properly sealed. They repaired it on 23 & 27 March.

The re-painting of the floors in reception and Rooms 1 & 2 was completed during the closed season by two trustees.

As advised previously, the wooden fascia board around the outside of the Garden Room roof needs re-painting and repair. It has rotted at one point and is in poor condition. It was recommended that we consider replacing or covering with UPVC but needed to approach the local authority for planning permission due to the buildings Grade II listed status. An application for planning consent was submitted to the local authority on 25 February.

Marketing and Communications

The Gold Hill Museum website continues to be the main engine of publicity for Society activities, supported by the invaluable output of Shaftesbury's own radio station *ThisIsAlfred*. Interviews with most of the speakers from the lecture series were broadcast, and the Society's trustees are well represented on the regular *Hilltop History* programme. Twenty-three comprehensively illustrated and researched News Blogs were posted during the year, with links to the Society's Facebook page. Here it is also possible to share relevant posts from similar organisations. The number of subscribers to the News Blogs is on the cusp of 500. A typical total of unique visitors to the website is 1200 a month, an average of 40 per day, with nearly 70 page views per day, but there are variable peaks and troughs. A Blog anticipating the opening of the 2023 season with a temporary archival exhibition about a public-spirited local family attracted 110 hits the day after posting. The proportion of new visitors to the website is consistently around 80% with the vast majority from the UK. The Facebook page has received 600 likes and is followed by over 640, an increase of 10% on last year.

The content of the permanent pages on the website is regularly refreshed and augmented. New pages were added entitled *Four Hundred Years of*

Dorset Buttons (initially in support of a temporary exhibition) and *Shaftesbury's Blue Plaques*. The latter includes a link to a pedestrian trail designed by a keen local walker, with the assistance of the Society's President. The *Dorset Buttons* page now draws attention to a laser-cut steel artwork installed in 2022 by artist Bruce Williams on the exterior of a local supermarket. The artist freely acknowledges the inspiration gained from seeing Honiton Lace and Dorset Buttons in Room 5 at Gold Hill Museum. However, the explanatory brass plaque is inconspicuously positioned above a blocked footpath at the side of the building.

Increased traffic to the website was generated by participation as a satellite museum in the 2022 Wessex Partnership Museums' *Hardy's Wessex* linked Exhibitions. A new information panel carries Gold Hill Museum's first QR code, accessing the *Thomas Hardy and Shaftesbury* page and a self-guided Hardy trail. A presence and link on the Beckford Society website attracted hits from those with a specialist interest in *Fonthill Fever*. The Society renewed its silver package for a page on the Visit Dorset website, which incorporates feeds from TripAdvisor (generally very positive) and Facebook.

The "Shaftesbury Remembers" website continues to grow its coverage of the biographical details of individuals recorded on local war memorials. One indefatigable volunteer has now researched and uploaded over 1600 brief life histories. This S&DHS site offers a fund of information about all aspects of Life in and around Shaftesbury during the era of the Great War and continues to attract regular correspondence from family descendants seeking or offering updated information. There are also frequent compliments about the value of the information contained in the database. The editor of the *New Blackmore Vale Magazine* seemed to imply that the BVM would be pleased in November 2022 to draw on this material, but nothing subsequently appeared in print.

Gold Hill Museum continues to be publicised in a tourist leaflet published jointly with the Abbey Museum and Gardens, and in a Museums Trail leaflet featuring several North Dorset museums. The trustees renewed a two-year contract for advertising space on the commercially produced Gillingham and Shaftesbury Tourist Map, before lending financial and informational support to a local project to design a new Town Map and Guide. This has been published despite being apparently put in jeopardy by the sudden closure of the Tourist Information Centre.

With six 200-word texts on artefacts nominated by the trustees no longer required for the Town Guide, the material was pared down and rewritten as part of a draft Gold Hill Museum Guide. Two trustees, a talented volunteer graphic designer / photographer, and a volunteer watercolourist made indispensable contributions to the development of a 32-page A5 full colour souvenir guide, for which a small start-up grant was obtained from the Dorset Museums Association. At the time of writing this guide was at the printers.

Finance

The year end bank account statements have been reconciled and the relevant Sage Account records and documents are ready for Andrews and Palmer Accountants in Gillingham for the Annual Examination for the Charities Commission.

Donations/ Shop Sales

With no Covid restrictions the museum was able to open 1st April to 31st October as normal.

Therefore, income from Donations and Shop sales are as follows.

Donations-Cash	£7,356	
Donations Card	£1,584	
Donations Gift Aid	£694	
Donations Churn	£720	
Donations SH Books	£251	
	£10,605	
Shop sales	£3,069 net.	Goods Sold £7,405
		Goods Purchased £4,336

Donations have increased but this is due to being open the whole season.

2022-23	April – October 2022	Adults 13,435	Children 1,564
2021-22	June - October 2021	Adults 11,285	Children 1,422

Grants

Dorset Museum Association Grant of £500.00

Bank Balances

The bank balances have continued to be healthy and the balances:-

Community Account	£7,258
Business Money Manager	£66,868
M&G investment	£42,417 (the value decreased slightly from Mar 22)

The trustees agreed to maintain about £10,000.00 in the Community Account depending on expected expenses and transfer any balance to the Money Manager Account to make the most of increased interest rates. It was decided with the ongoing situation in Ukraine to delay investing any further funds to M&G.

Gift Aid

The Gift Aid claim is generally processed in the following year. So will be claimed in 2023-24

The Gift Aid claim for the year ending 31 March 2022 was £1,788.16.

New Equipment

A deposit has been paid for two new display cases, and hopefully these will be delivered shortly.

General Remarks

Repairs/ Maintenance Costs	£7,091
Library Refurbishment	£900

British Gas Electric - We have a Fixed Term Contract to 23 October 2024.

Funding

Initiatives and potential avenues of enquiry were placed temporarily on hold due to illness suffered by the trustee responsible for funding.

The replacement of two display cabinets when the museum closed for the winter was deferred until early 2023 and that work was then recommenced and underway: the cabinets have been constructed and it is anticipated

that delivery and installation will be completed early in the new financial year.

The Society itself faces the obvious and usual challenges of fulfilling its functionality and of maintaining a museum which is attractive to both the local community and tourists, including building maintenance implications and rising costs, and all whilst relying on existing funds and the generosity of visitor donations.

Whilst nothing is truly free, financial assistance is part of the process of a charity providing value to its environment; inclusivity will be a key concept in any consideration given by anybody considering offering us support.

To this end we have approached a local supermarket with a view their championing our cause through community action process; early indications are promising. In addition to this we have begun to look at the National Lottery Community Fund which has clear criteria and there appear to be several areas where we may qualify.

As initiatives, these projects will continue to progress into and through the next financial year.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The annual fixed costs (rates, insurance, utilities, maintenance contracts) of running the Museum are in the region of £10,000. If the Museum must close for any reason we still have these bills to pay with the additional concern of the proposed increase in fuel prices and its knock-on effect. The lift is necessary for enabling full access and would be expensive to replace. Substantial repairs to the fabric of the building may be needed at some time in the future. The Trustees have estimated a figure of 5% of the rebuild value plus £10,000 annual fixed costs as the contingency reserve.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Museum has no loans and none of the Museum's assets (building and collection) is used as collateral. The Museum has just one site which is owned by the Society and the accounts cover all financial activity at that site.

Our investment policy is based on the principle of caution using a deposit account and a Charifund investment at present.

The Trustees thank all our donors, including our members, the general public and local businesses and groups, for their generosity. We also thank those local and regional businesses which offer concessional rates, and those businesses who turn up at short notice to help us out in an emergency.

Section F Other optional information

We plan to open on Saturday 1 April for a normal season.

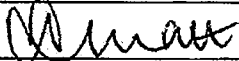

The library and archives department has mounted an exhibition of the Peach family (shop owners in Shaftesbury and Gillingham) using the display unit now opposite the First-Floor lift entrance. The unit was kindly offered by the Abbey Museum who no longer required it. This area will be an excellent opportunity for the department to display material from its collection.

Due to the popularity of the Fonthill Abbey exhibition we are planning to keep it for another year.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Elaine Barratt	Liz Hack
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer

Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CIO

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023
AS SET OUT ON PAGES 15 & 16

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act
- have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 2 Aug 23

Name:

Mr P L Bevis

Relevant professional qualifications:

FCA FCCA

Address:

Andrews & Palmer Ltd, Chartered Accountants,
32 The Square, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4AR



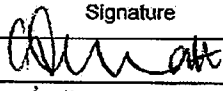

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Apr-22	To	Period end date 31-Mar-23
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	10,606	-	-	10,606	8,675
Grants	500	-	-	500	13,395
Gift Aid	1,788	-	-	1,788	-
Lecture Income	198	-	-	198	27
Members' Subscriptions	1,373	-	-	1,373	1,125
Outings	250	-	-	250	-
Rental Income	6,000	-	-	6,000	5,175
Room Hire	4,670	-	-	4,670	-
Sales	7,405	-	-	7,405	6,922
Other Income	524	-	-	524	-
Interest	319	-	-	319	3
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	33,633	-	-	33,633	35,322
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	33,633	-	-	33,633	35,322
A3 Payments					
Admin & Office Supplies	846	-	-	846	711
Business Rates	1,062	-	-	1,062	542
Collection & Gallery	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Goods Sold	4,816	-	-	4,816	4,080
Display & Exhibitions	17	-	-	17	-
Education	42	-	-	42	-
Garden	-	-	-	-	-
Information Technology	918	-	-	918	780
Insurance	3,969	-	-	3,969	3,715
Marketing	1,641	-	-	1,641	312
Membership Events & Expenses	642	-	-	642	656
Outing	250	-	-	250	-
Repairs & Maintenance	8,136	-	-	8,136	5,507
Subscriptions	570	-	-	570	265
Utilities	3,332	-	-	3,332	4,008
Training	24	-	-	24	57
Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	614
Accountancy	480	-	-	480	-
Website	-	-	-	-	315
Other Expenditure	3,923	-	-	3,923	105
Sub total	30,668	-	-	30,668	21,667
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Investment in Charifund	-	-	-	-	-
Computer	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	239	-	-	239	203
Sub total	239	-	-	239	203
Total payments	30,907	-	-	30,907	21,870
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,726	-	-	2,726	13,452
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	63,050	8,498	-	71,548	58,096
Cash funds this year end	65,776	8,498	-	74,274	71,548

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	65,629	8,498	-
	Cash in Hand	147	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	65,776	8,498	-
	<small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</small>		OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Debtors	4,291	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Charifund Accumulation Units	Unrestricted	-	42,417
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Freehold Property	Unrestricted	-	675,000
	Fixtures & Fittings	Unrestricted	88,149	-
	Computers	Unrestricted	10,179	-
	Heritage Assets	Unrestricted	-	132,624
	Stock	Unrestricted	-	2,620
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Creditors	Unrestricted	636	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		E. Barratt		
		L. Hack		

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1156273

Accounts

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	April	2021		31	March	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

The Shaftesbury & District Historical Society

Other names charity is known by

Gold Hill Museum or the S&DHS

Registered charity number (if any)

1156273

Charity's principal address

Gold Hill Museum	
1-2 Gold Hill	
Shaftesbury	
Postcode	SP7 8JW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Elaine Barratt	Chair/Stewards/ Shop Manager		Membership
2	Sheena Commons	Vice Chair/Display/ Collection Care		Membership
3	David Hardiman	Buildings		
4	Ian Kellett	Secretary/Lectures/ Marketing		Membership
5	Anthony Martin	Collection Care	From August 2021	Membership
6	Mark Smith	Fund raising		Membership
7	Susan Stamp	Membership/ Newsletter	To February 2022	Membership
8	Rupert Tapper	Archive/library	From August 2021	Membership
9	Linda Wilton	Treasurer		Membership
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bank	HSBC	19 Minster Street, Salisbury SP1 1TE
Solicitor	Rutter	2 Bimport, Shaftesbury SP7 8JG
Accountant	Andrews & Palmer	32 The Square, Gillingham SP8 4AR

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO Association Constitution last amended 5 April 2016
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation of approximately 130 members
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees must be members of the Society, elected by its members. One third of existing trustees retire each year and may stand for re-election. Trustees are elected at the AGM held in August following the end of the financial year. Trustees have the power to co-opt as necessary.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Volunteers, including new trustees, have a short induction on first arrival. Further training is ongoing within role, including any external training courses which may become available.

A comprehensive Stewards' Guide, containing procedures and relevant policies, is readily available to all volunteers; stewards are required to sign an annual declaration that they have read it. No trustees or other volunteers receive any remuneration or other benefits.

Role descriptions for all trustees and other volunteers are available. DBS checks are only made if appropriate. The Society operates published Volunteer; Safeguarding; Disability Discrimination; Equal Opportunities; Health & Safety; Education; Exhibition & Display; Financial Control; Lifelong Learning; Acquisition & Disposal; Care & Conservation; Collections Development; Environmental; Access; Data Protection Policies as well as Emergency; Resource; Audience Development; Forward Plans, Security Review, and a Documentation Procedural Manual covering accessioning and disposal of gifts and loans, all of which are updated to schedule.

The Society is a member of AIM (the Association of Independent Museums), the South-West Federation of Museums and Art Galleries, the Dorset Museums Association, the North Dorset Museums Group and is accredited with ACE (Arts Council England).

The intruder and fire alarms, fire extinguishers, heating system, lift, and CCTV are held on routine service contracts.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is to encourage the appreciation, study and enjoyment of history, especially that local to Shaftesbury, Dorset, and its environs, and thereby advance the education of members of the Society and of the public of all ages and background by, in particular but not exclusively: (a) operating a museum of artefacts which reflect the history of the area and (b) maintaining a library of books and documents of local historical interest.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. It has informed our decisions on opening hours, free entry to the Museum, temporary exhibitions, all age and lifelong learning, cooperation with other groups in the area and communication with the local community.

The Society, during normal times:

- owns, maintains and operates Gold Hill Museum which is open to the public daily for at least seven months of the year with free admission
- mounts at least two temporary exhibitions each year in addition to the regular displays
- owns and maintains a local history library and archive which is open to members and the general public for research purposes by appointment at agreed times throughout the year
- organises and holds lectures in the winter which may be attended by non-members on payment of a small fee
- organises a learning and outreach education programme for children and adults, parts of which are conducted with the Abbey Museum and Gardens

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The society was operated entirely by volunteers for the whole year. The volunteers made a huge contribution covering every aspect of the operation. Not only do the trustees appreciate the considerable, willing hours of input but also the general public is impressed by their contribution as can be seen in our visitor comments book and comments on-line. The public sees the stewards during their visit but there are, of course, considerable inputs by volunteers behind the scenes such as those who maintain the building, labour in the garden, work with the collection or the archive and library, put up the displays, produce and publish the newsletter, apply for funding as appropriate, ensure compliance with current legal requirements, update the website, take part in research with the local community and organise the all-age and lifelong learning activities.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**Management**

The Trustees held 11 committee meetings when they delivered reports on their respective responsibilities. Sub-groups met as necessary to deal with matters such as Collections, Archives, Library and Exhibitions.

Museum opening, shop and gardens

The museum reopened on 31 May, two weeks after pandemic regulations allowed, and has operated normally since, closing on 31 October.

The gift shop has a wide selection of souvenirs, the majority of which are made locally, and is a good source of income. Because we do not charge for entry, we rely on the generosity of our visitors who normally number 20,000 per annum. Shop purchases and donations provide a large part of our income.

Our small team of garden helpers has continued to work steadily and reliably throughout the year, for which many thanks. Investing in the council's fortnightly garden waste collection has proved invaluable.

The Collection

Some examples of donations Gold Hill Museum has received are: A large picture of Gold Hill painted by Keith Cast, a renowned West Country artist, who painted in the second half of the 20th century and specialised in landscapes and seascapes. This is now hanging on the staircase.

A Hovis plate and framed photos of the various Hovis adverts. These were on display in the Hovis exhibition and have since been donated to us.

A selection of plans and artwork by Henry Haig A.R.C.A., a stained glass artist, of his commissions relevant to Shaftesbury and its environs.

We continue to work on catching up with our backlog and have started to work on the rationalisation of the Storeroom.

Temporary Display

The Hovis exhibition, which was mounted for the 2020 season, was left in situ for 2021. It was made possible by the loan of several unique items from a private collection and proved to be popular, particularly the re-run of the original Hovis advert on a display screen.

The childhood exhibition was completed and opened for 2020 and there has been a great deal of interest in the dolls' houses and box rooms. We have made this display interactive to an extent with dolls in the wooden cradle which can be played with, books to read and vintage toys and will expand on this in the following years.

An extra exhibition was put up in July about John Rutter, the 'Turbulent Quaker' of Shaftesbury, to coincide with the commissioning and placement of a blue plaque in his memory. A small ceremony was also held in Gold Hill museum with many of the Rutter family attending

The Library/Archive

Over the past year 11 volunteers led by our indefatigable key helper have continued to catalogue the archives. In the case of the books, our library volunteer has again been working tirelessly to index them (1,441 done so far) on the Modes database so that anyone can conduct a search far more quickly. Most of the archive material on the shelves and the maps are now in acid-free boxes and folders.

We also now have an index on our system of all local studies books held in Shaftesbury town library. Together, this progress means that we are significantly closer to the time when we can offer the public a useful digital access to our resources and / or the town library's, as reported in last year's annual report. We have also continued the process of cataloguing all the files held in our filing cabinets so that they too can be accessible by a digital search.

In November last year we held a conservation training day led by Helena Jaeschke from South West Museum Development. She took us through all the main areas of potential concern and gave some useful recommendations. These are available in the museum for all helpers. One result is that the temperature and humidity inside the museum library are now regularly monitored.

We now have a two-user licence for the Modes Database. We are grateful for the continued and very helpful input of Andy Hargreaves with our IT needs. The library / archive pages on the museum website have been updated. Our archive key helper is working on a draft Library Admin Handbook on all our procedures and policies regarding our archive collection so that in the untimely absence of a key member of the department, the library and archives will continue to function smoothly.

With the Shop Manager's help, we have purchased books relating to the area and the lecture programme from local publishers, and have had various donations. We are grateful to the Abbey for a gift of a useful display cabinet now outside the library. It is envisaged that this will be used to display documents kept in the library.

We are working on a new museum brochure which we intend to sell for a small amount in the shop. A similar one is on sale in the County Museum for around £3. We believe that many visitors who want a souvenir of their visit and don't buy other merchandise might like this.

Membership

Membership has remained the same at around 130.

Magazine

One edition of the Byzant magazine was produced in time for Christmas. It was very well received judging by the favourable feedback. Unfortunately, the local community printers of the 2020 34-page, full-colour, printed edition of "The Byzant" Newsletter were unable to offer the same service in December 2021. The result was a glossy 50-page publication from new printers in Blandford which more than did justice to the appellation of 75th Anniversary Edition. The Chairman's tributes to the Society's dedicated volunteers were followed by minutes of the AGM held in August 2021, and several well-researched and illustrated articles on: the early days of the Society in 1946 and its founder Noel Teulon Porter; both William Beckfords and the great sales of Fonthill Abbey in

1822-23; an unfortunate Matron of the Westminster Memorial Hospital in 1923; the inauguration of the Park Walk War Memorial in 1921; the Teulon Porter Lectures of 2021 and 2022; and The Art of A Salesman, linked to a now twice-postponed January lecture on Merton Russell-Cotes. There was also welcome exposure of eight photographs of Edwardian Shaftesbury from the Society's Tyler Collection.

Information Technology.

Andy Hargreaves, a local IT expert, continues to lend support pro bono.

Life-long learning events and schools

Following a Covid break, the monthly Reminiscence Afternoons resumed at Shaftesbury Library in 2021 as part of the museum's Shaftesbury Remembers project. Sessions have been well attended within the County Library restrictions. Topics discussed have included Travel, In the News, Treasured Objects, Christmas Traditions, Our Working Lives, School, Shops and most recently, Jubilee. The sessions are enthusiastically supported by those attending and by the Shaftesbury Library staff.

In January the museum's link with Sunshine Hour at the Bell Street United Church continued with a presentation on Albert Tyler's Edwardian Shaftesbury photographs. Local people attending offered to be interviewed at a later date about their memories of the town.

It has been difficult to re-establish our education team (jointly with The Abbey Museum) following the pandemic and we are currently endeavouring to recruit suitable volunteers.

The Lecture and Events Programme

With lockdowns and social distancing in force for at least parts of the reporting period, and apprehensions raised by the emergence of new Covid variants, the indoor lecture series was again disrupted. For the second consecutive year it was impractical to organise a Summer Outing or a hands-on All-Age Joint Activities programme with the Abbey Museum. It was possible to invite online participation in an "Amazing Spaces Challenge", and an outstanding entry in the shape of a model of "Mr Toad's Abandoned Caravan" became part of the 2021 temporary exhibition featuring Dolls' Houses created by Tryphena Orchard.

Fortunately, the first major event of the year on 7 August 2021 was out-of-doors, and well-attended. A Blue Plaque commemorating the life and achievements of local 19th century printer-publisher and human rights campaigner John Rutter was unveiled by the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset in Shaftesbury's The Commons. This project, funded jointly by The S&DHS and Shaftesbury Town Council, was driven by the President of the Society. The Plaque is notable in that it is the first, among a dozen or so, to mark the contribution by a named individual to the betterment of life in the town.

Lectures resumed in October in the well-ventilated space of Shaftesbury Town Hall with the previously postponed Teulon Porter Memorial Lecture by Professor Tony Badger. A venture away from the comfort zone of local or even British History, it proved to be a masterly examination of its subject, "Trump, Biden and 2020 in Historical Perspective." It was well

received by an audience numbering over 50, 17 of whom were non-members, some being sufficiently impressed to take out membership. Two of the remaining six lectures, scheduled for the Museum's less spacious Anna McDowell Garden Room, were postponed with the onset of the Omicron variant; one in January 2022 for the second time, a Groundhog Day experience explored in our News Blog. The other four attracted satisfactorily Goldilockian audiences, i.e. not too large and not too small. Chairs were set out at a greater distance than previously, and members were allowed the privilege of claiming a seat until 10 minutes before the start. This all seemed to work without friction, even when in February the audience for "Thomas Hardy; the Novels, the Novelist and North Dorset" reached the mid-40s. The charismatic presenter (and architect) of "Reconstructing the Theatres of Shakespeare's Time - the Globe and the Wanamaker Playhouse" made a deep impression on an audience numbering the mid-20s. The last lecture of the series, "Fonhill Fever", attracted an audience back to the mid-40s, and provided a scholarly yet diverting background to a major forthcoming temporary exhibition.

The Buildings

Further to last year's report, the survey and testing carried out by E.C. Electrical identified some relatively minor issues in the tenants' shop which were rectified on 23 April. A final certificate was issued, which is now on file at the museum. The new tenant reported problems with the tap in the WC so a new one was fitted by a local plumber.

Following a site meeting with Young's Brewery's surveyor re the adjoining wall with The Mitre public house and their further unofficial one of which we became aware at the time, their contractors finally carried out clearance of ivy from the top of the wall on 20 September. Unfortunately, only the section adjacent to their pub decking was cleared, which represents about one third of the overall length of the wall. However, it was felt that we had taken this matter as far as possible with Young's and that, without any joint maintenance agreement seemingly possible, we should proceed with our own maintenance work to our side of the wall. The wall was subsequently cleared of ivy and other growth by us and has received several doses of a strong weedkiller to prevent future re-growth. Some re-pointing of joints will be carried out soon.

Despite all efforts, it has not been possible to identify the origin of the ingress of rainwater via the kitchen ceiling, but an area of flat roof above the library is suspected. The gutters were professionally cleared and cleaned on 18 August. The above area of flat roof was also cleared, which it was hoped, might stop future water leakage into the kitchen. Unfortunately, the problem persists, and the suspect flat roof area will need to be properly inspected at some time. However, it is not easily accessible and will require ongoing consideration.

Following an annual service of the intruder alarm, Partnership replaced the sensors in the office and room 7. Furthermore, after problems setting the alarm and as a result of a subsequent inspection by a senior engineer, it was determined that we needed a new communications unit, which was installed at a cost of £210, and which resulted in our annual service charge increasing from £110 to £195.

Due to the problem of the light sometimes being left on by visitors, a

motion sensitive light was installed in the WC by a qualified electrician. This will automatically switch off after a set period.

The entrance gate lantern stopped working and it was found that one of the four small panes of glass and the bulb had been smashed. The lantern was refurbished, re-painted and the broken glass and bulb replaced by our trustee responsible for buildings. He also fixed a leak in the entrance guttering and unblocked the downpipe.

The garden trees, shrubs and hedges were cut back and trimmed by a specialist contractor, to our lead gardener's specification/satisfaction, on 18 February. A new, small garden shed has been positioned in the garden. Due to a safety concern relating to the exposed length of low wall with a substantial drop to the other side adjacent to the new shed, which was previously protected by a large shrub, temporary fencing was installed as a deterrent until either some new and appropriate shrubs can be grown there again, or some more permanent fencing can be installed.

Marketing and Communications

Over a dozen media outlets, including all local press and regional television companies, were kept fully informed about the Unveiling of the John Rutter Blue Plaque by the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset in August. Few showed interest in covering it. Shaftesbury's own local radio station, The Alfred Daily, was an honourable exception. Several Gold Hill Museum volunteers are regular contributors to, and indeed the main presenter of, This is Alfred's Hilltop History Show. A smartphone video recording of the unveiling ceremony was requested by BBC South News, but not used. Subsequently posted on the GHM Facebook page, this has received over 400 viewings. The professionally-made promotional video has now achieved 1900 viewings and continues to be admired for its striking drone photography and positive representation of Dorset's highest hilltop town.

Covid Lockdowns have winnowed the number of free sheets published in North Dorset. The New Blackmore Vale provided generous coverage of the re-opening of local museums in May 2021, and of the Society's annual Teulon Porter Memorial Lecture in October. Over 50 attended and new members were recruited. Such turnouts would, however, have posed logistical problems for the remaining lectures in the more confined space of the Anna McDowell Garden Room. Publicity was therefore confined to regular News Blogs on the GHM website and Facebook page, as well as the Lectures and Events card sent out to members in August together with details of the AGM.

Multiple centenaries while the Museum was locked down provided the inspiration for Blogs about England's Worst King Henry VI and First Prime Minister Sir Robert Walpole, and later about the inauguration of War Memorials on Park Walk and in Enmore Green. When the Omicron variant disrupted the lecture programme in January, a riff on Groundhog Day was prompted. The number of subscribers to these Blogs has risen to edge closer to 490. A typical total of unique visitors to the website is 900 a month, an average of 30 per day, but there are variable peaks and troughs. Holiday periods and special events can see daily spikes of 60 plus. The proportion of new visitors is consistently around 82% with the vast majority from the UK. The Facebook page has received 540 likes and is followed by over 580. The most popular post, in March 2022 anticipating the new season and Fonthill Fever exhibition, reached 326 people, of whom 90% would be from the UK and 35% from Shaftesbury.

As well as News Blogs (27 in the year), existing permanent pages on the website have been revamped and new pages created. The Library and Archives pages have been expanded with new images added, reflecting the cataloguing and conservation work of enthusiastic volunteers, and the user-friendly ethos now being encouraged. More images have been added to the Collection page Gallery to show the variety of artefacts held by GHM. A completely new Thomas Hardy and Shaftesbury page anticipated the 2022 Hardy's Wessex exhibitions, and provides a downloadable self-guided walking tour of the locations borrowed by Hardy for his last novel Jude the Obscure.

The "Shaftesbury Remembers" website continues to grow its coverage of the biographical details of individuals recorded on local war memorials. One indefatigable volunteer has now researched and uploaded over 1300 brief life histories. This S&DHS site offers a fund of information about all aspects of Life in and around Shaftesbury during the era of the Great War, and continues to attract regular correspondence from family descendants seeking or offering updated information. There are also frequent compliments about the value of the information contained in the database.

Gold Hill Museum continues to be publicised in a tourist leaflet published jointly with the Abbey Museum and Gardens, and in a Museums Trail leaflet featuring several North Dorset museums. The trustees continue to pay for advertising space on the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Tourist Map.

Finance

The Year End bank account statements have been reconciled and the relevant Sage Account records and documents have been deposited, ready for Andrews and Palmer Accountants in Gillingham for the Annual Audit for the Charities Commission.

Donations/ Shop Sales

With the Covid Government Restrictions being lifted we were able to open 31 May to 31 October

Therefore, income from Donations and Shop sales are as follows.

Donations-Cash	£5,881	
Donations Card	£ 972	
Donations Gift Aid	£ 588	
Donations Churn	£1,050	
Donations SH Books	£ 183	
	£7,702	
Shop sales	£2,843 net.	Goods Sold £6,923
		Goods Purchased £4,080

On the whole donations pro rata to 2019-20 have decreased a little, to be expected as not open until June and footfall was less overall.

Comparison (Note: only open for 3 Weekends in 2020-21)

2021-22	June - October 2021	Adults 11,285	Children 1,422
2019-20	April - October 2019		
	(plus Half Term Feb 2020)	Adults 17,545	Children 1,817

Grants

Dorset Council - Covid Restart Grant of £12,000

South West Museum Development Programme: For new monitors which

were purchased in 2020. Payment of Grant delayed due to Covid Restrictions.

Shaftesbury Town Council: Blue Plaque contribution of £394.50

Bank Balances

We are overall we are maintaining healthy bank balances:-

Community Account £50,648

Business Money Manager £20,849

M&G investment £42,721 (the value increased after a drop
in 2020-21 to £37,935)

This year there has been a further recovery in the Stock Market. It was decided by the Trustees, this year, to delay transfer of more funds to M&G Investments because of the uncertainty of the Stock Market due to the war in Ukraine. To be reviewed in again in 2022-23

Gift Aid

The Gift Aid claim is generally processed in the following year. So will be claimed in 2022-23

Gift Aid donations were varied but has been helped by having the Card System in place.

New Equipment

New storage has continued to be purchased for the refurbishment of the library. This is now near complete thanks to the team of volunteers.

General Remarks

Repairs/ Maintenance Costs £3,516

Library Refurbishment £1,991

British Gas Electric - We have a Fixed Term Contract to 23 October 2024, which has proved a valid decision, costing a little more, now energy costs have increased so much and will again.

Funding

It will be seen from reading other sections of this document that a mounting degree of focus is required as regards the maintenance and repair of our building. The potential costs involved are daunting.

Our existing intentions to further progress and develop our relationships with other organisations and our community will always be a continuous process, but at this time we have specific challenges to address. Funding is always challenging and discussions with our Museum Development Officer have shown that at the present time bidding for funding requires us to identify 'projects' that are longstanding, diverse and inclusive.

Our immediate needs are specific. We have therefore identified a need to move into the coming year with the specific intent of raising awareness of the challenges facing the building and appealing more creatively and directly to our 'community'.

Advertising ourselves, our intentions and therefore how to move from intention to action has been given appropriate thought over the last winter. Much of the building's needs will be met over the next winter with as little disruption to our public as possible.

In between time, and therefore currently, fundraising has a direction and specific targets.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The annual fixed costs (rates, insurance, utilities, maintenance contracts) of running the Museum are in the region of £10,000. If the Museum must close for any reason we still have these bills to pay with the additional concern of the proposed increase in fuel prices and its knock-on effect. The lift is necessary for enabling full access and would be expensive to replace. Substantial repairs to the fabric of the building may be needed at some time in the future. The Trustees have estimated a figure of 5% of the rebuild value plus £10,000 annual fixed costs as the contingency reserve.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Museum has no loans and none of the Museum's assets (building and collection) is used as collateral. The Museum has just one site which is owned by the Society and the accounts cover all financial activity at that site. Our investment policy is based on the principle of caution using a deposit account and a Charifund investment at present. The Trustees thank all our donors, including our members, the general public and local businesses and groups, for their generosity. We also thank those local and regional businesses which offer concessional rates and those businesses who turn up at short notice to help us out in an emergency.

Section F

Other optional information

We plan to open on Friday 1 April for a normal season. 2022 will be the *400th anniversary of Dorset buttons* so we are planning a display to commemorate this milestone. 2022 is also the 200th anniversary of the sale of Fonthill Abbey in 1822-23 so Gold Hill Museum is hosting an exhibition in our small exhibition room, to be called '*Fonthill Fever*'. Using sale catalogues, guide books, prints and souvenirs, it will show how the Fonthill sales gripped the public imagination. As part of Wessex Museums' *Hardy's Wessex*, we will also be highlighting our Jude the Obscure-related items. Another major anniversary in 2022 is the *platinum anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II* so we are planning how we can also celebrate this important event.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Elaine Barratt	Linda Wilton
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer

Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CIO

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022
AS SET OUT ON PAGES 14 & 15

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act
- have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 27 July 22

Name:

Mr P L Bevis

Relevant professional qualifications:

FCA FCCA

Address:

Andrews & Palmer Ltd, Chartered Accountants,
32 The Square, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4AR



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2021	To	Period end date 31/03/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	8,675	-	-	8,675	868
Grants	13,395	-	-	13,395	25,500
Small Grant Big Improvement Project	-	-	-	-	-
Legacy	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	1,448
Education	-	-	-	-	-
Lecture Income	27	-	-	27	-
Members' Subscriptions	1,125	-	-	1,125	45
Outings	-	-	-	-	-
Rental Income	5,175	-	-	5,175	4,820
Sales	6,922	-	-	6,922	733
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	3	-	-	3	8
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	35,322	-	-	35,322	33,422
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	35,322	-	-	35,322	33,422
A3 Payments					
Admin & Office Supplies	711	-	-	711	820
Business Rates	542	-	-	542	52
Collection & Gallery	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Goods Sold	4,080	-	-	4,080	726
Display & Exhibitions	-	-	-	-	19
Education	-	-	-	-	31
Garden	-	-	-	-	-
Information Technology	780	-	-	780	274
Insurance	3,715	-	-	3,715	3,882
Marketing	312	-	-	312	1,287
Membership Events & Expenses	656	-	-	656	16
Outing	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs & Maintenance	5,507	-	-	5,507	10,324
Short History Book Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions	265	-	-	265	280
Utilities	4,008	-	-	4,008	3,397
Training	57	-	-	57	-
Professional Fees	614	-	-	614	-
Accountancy	-	-	-	-	720
Website	315	-	-	315	-
Other Expenditure	105	-	-	105	-
Small Grant Big Improvement Project	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	21,667	-	-	21,667	21,828
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Investment in Charifund	-	-	-	-	-
Computer	-	-	-	-	1,566
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	203	-	-	203	1,086
Sub total	203	-	-	203	2,652
Total payments	21,870	-	-	21,870	24,480
Net of receipts/(payments)	13,452	-	-	13,452	8,942..)
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	49,597	8,498	-	58,096	49,154
Cash funds this year end	63,049	8,498	-	71,548	58,096

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	62,999	8,498	-
	Cash in Hand	50	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	63,049	8,498	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Debtors	-	840	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Charifund Accumulation Units	Unrestricted	-	42,721
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Freehold Property	Unrestricted	-	675,000
	Fixtures & Fittings	Unrestricted	88,149	-
	Computers	Unrestricted	9,940	-
	Heritage Assets	Unrestricted	-	132,624
	Stock	Unrestricted	-	2,140
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Creditors	Unrestricted	258	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
		E. Barratt		
		L. Wilton		

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1156273

Accounts

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIO

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From	01	April	2020	To	31	March	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Gold Hill Museum	
1-2 Gold Hill	
Shaftesbury	
Postcode	SP7 8JW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Elaine Barratt	Chair/Stewards/ Shop Manager		Membership
2	Sheena Commons	Vice Chair/Collection Care/Display		Membership
3	David Hardiman	Buildings		
4	Ian Kellett	Secretary/Lectures		Membership
5	Paulette McManus	Museology	On sabbatical for personal reasons from April – August 2020	Membership
6	Raymond Simpson	Librarian/Archivist	To August 2020	Membership
7	Mark Smith	Fund raising		Membership
8	Susan Stamp	Membership/ Newsletter	From September 2020	Membership
9	Janet Swiss	Garden	To June 2020	Membership
10	Linda Wilton	Treasurer		Membership
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bank	HSBC	19 Minster Street, Salisbury SP1 1TE
Solicitor	Rutter	2 Bimport, Shaftesbury SP7 8JG
Accountant	Andrews & Palmer	32 The Square, Gillingham SP8 4AR

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	CIO Association Constitution last amended 5 April 2016
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation of approximately 130 members
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees must be members of the Society, elected by its members. One third of existing trustees retire each year and may stand for re-election. Trustees are elected at the AGM held in July following the end of the financial year. Trustees have the power to co-opt as necessary.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Volunteers, including new trustees, have a short induction on first arrival. Further training is ongoing within role, including any external training courses which may become available.

A comprehensive Stewards' Guide, containing procedures and relevant policies, is readily available to all volunteers; stewards are required to sign an annual declaration that they have read it. No trustees or other volunteers receive any remuneration or other benefits.

Role descriptions for all trustees and other volunteers are available. DBS checks are only made if appropriate. The Society operates published Volunteer; Safeguarding; Disability Discrimination; Equal Opportunities; Health & Safety; Education; Exhibition & Display; Financial Control; Lifelong Learning; Acquisition & Disposal; Care & Conservation; Collections Development; Environmental; Access; Data Protection Policies as well as Emergency; Resource; Audience Development; Forward Plans, Security Review, and a Documentation Procedural Manual covering accessioning and disposal of gifts and loans, all of which are updated to schedule.

The Society is a member of AIM (the Association of Independent Museums), the South-West Federation of Museums and Art Galleries, the Dorset Museums Association, the North Dorset Museums Group and is accredited with ACE (Arts Council England).

The intruder and fire alarms, fire extinguishers, heating system, lift, and CCTV are held on routine service contracts.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is to encourage the appreciation, study and enjoyment of history, especially that local to Shaftesbury, Dorset, and its environs, and thereby advance the education of members of the Society and of the public of all ages and background by, in particular but not exclusively: (a) operating a museum of artefacts which reflect the history of the area and (b) maintaining a library of books and documents of local historical interest.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. It has informed our decisions on opening hours, free entry to the Museum, temporary exhibitions, all age and lifelong learning, cooperation with other groups in the area and communication with the local community.

The Society during normal, ie non-pandemic, times:

- owns, maintains and operates Gold Hill Museum which is open to the public daily for at least seven months of the year with free admission
- mounts at least two temporary exhibitions each year in addition to the regular displays
- owns and maintains a local history library and archive which is open to members and the general public for research purposes by appointment at agreed times throughout the year
- organises and holds lectures in the winter which may be attended by non-members on payment of a small fee
- organises a learning and outreach education programme for children and adults, parts of which are conducted with the Abbey Museum and Gardens

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The society was operated entirely by volunteers for the whole year. The volunteers made a huge contribution covering every aspect of the operation. Not only do the trustees appreciate the considerable, willing hours of input but also the general public is impressed by their contribution as can be seen in our visitor comments book and comments on-line. The public sees the stewards during their visit but there are, of course, considerable inputs by volunteers behind the scenes such as those who maintain the building, labour in the garden, work with the collection or the archive and library, put up the displays, produce and publish the newsletter, apply for funding as appropriate, ensure compliance with current legal requirements, update the website, take part in research with the local community and organise the all-age and lifelong learning activities.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Management

The Trustees held 8 committee meetings via Zoom when they delivered reports on their respective responsibilities. Sub-groups met as necessary to deal with matters such as Collections, Archives, Library and Exhibitions.

Museum opening, shop and gardens

The Covid-19 pandemic had a tremendous impact on our normal operation and, even when Government regulations allowed, lack of volunteer availability meant that the museum, gift shop and garden were open for just three and a half weekends (Fri-Sun) in August.

The gift shop has a wide selection of souvenirs, the majority of which are made locally, and is a good source of income. Because we do not charge for entry, we rely on the generosity of our visitors who normally number 20,000 per annum. Shop purchases and donations which were meagre this year normally provide a large part of our income.

Our small team of garden helpers has continued to work steadily and reliably throughout the year, for which many thanks. The council's fortnightly garden waste collection, suspended for a short time at the onset of pandemic measures, is invaluable.

The Collection

Gold Hill Museum was closed for the majority of the 2020 season, opening for only a few weekends in August. During a lot of this time many of the volunteers were self-isolating until the lockdown was eased when we opened briefly and background work was continued for a short time until the second lockdown in January.

We have upgraded MODES, our Museum database and, with help, installed it. This gives us much more varied options in how we input data and keep our records.

We have had several offers of donations but until Covid restrictions are lifted are unable to take them in.

We continue to work on catching up with our backlog in accessioning and data recording and hope this winter to finally start on the re-organisation and audit of the storeroom.

Temporary Display

One of the temporary exhibitions we prepared for the 2020 season, all about Hovis and its iconic advert made on Gold Hill, was hardly viewed as the museum was open for such a short time so we have kept it intact for 2021. This exhibition was made possible by the loan of several items from a private collection.

We have also been working on a new exhibition for this season based on the theme of childhood. Some years ago we were given two dolls houses and some box rooms and we have used these as the basis of the new display. We have also used other items such as an old wooden cradle, an old school desk, vintage toys and children's clothing to give an

impression of a child's room. It is hoped that some of this will be interactive but this will be dependent on Covid guidelines.

The Library/Archive

Over the past year a team of nine volunteers has been carrying out an audit of the museum archives and books. We responded to the need for social distancing by moving boxes of documents temporarily out of the library into other rooms, thus allowing volunteers to examine, list and classify items in a safe space. In the face of considerable difficulties, the team has now completed this initial phase of the project.

As there was limited storage space in the library for these boxes it was decided to purchase two new bays of shelves that were compatible with the existing shelving. Two filing cabinets have also been replaced. The audit revealed original documents that need to be stored in acid neutral containers and folders, a quantity of which we have now purchased. The Dorset Museums Association has supported the project with valuable advice and a grant of £500. The easing of restrictions will also enable us to take up the offer of conservation training by South-West Museum Development.

Jeanette Hardiman has adapted the Modes cataloguing system to record the details of approximately 1,300 books. She has also helped with the creation of a similar set up for the future cataloguing of archival documents. We are most grateful to Andy Hargreaves for the free IT support he has provided in this process.

Our long-term goal is to be able to connect with the public by providing digital access to indexed resources and through regular displays, whilst ensuring the safe storage of our archives for future generations.

Membership

Membership has remained the same as the decision was taken by the trustees to extend it for a year without renewal subscription, given that we were unable, due to the pandemic, to offer the normal benefits.

Magazine

One edition of the Byzant magazine was produced in time for Christmas. It was very well received judging by the unprecedented, favourable feedback.

Information Technology.

There were some issues with our new computers and the implementation of cloud storage which were sorted out, pro bono, by Andy Hargreaves, a local IT expert. He drew to our attention to the seriously low download/upload speeds we were experiencing as a result of which, and unable to get anywhere with our current supplier, we have gone to another company.

Life-long learning events and schools

The pandemic has prevented any programme of education.

The Lecture and Events Programme

With lockdowns and social distancing in force it was not possible to hold any of the planned lectures, or All Age Joint Activities with the Abbey Museum. The AGM was postponed, re-located and finally held online; the associated Garden Party and the Summer Outing were cancelled. Speakers were contacted individually as the months passed and all kindly agreed to defer their lectures for a year. At this stage holding talks via Zoom was not considered, as it would exclude members who have no access to the necessary technology. For those who do have access, organisations such as Gresham College offer a range of attractive free lectures online, and details were emailed to members.

As there were no S&DHS lectures or events (with one “virtual” exception) to promote via the Gold Hill Museum website and Facebook page, the emphasis in the content of News Blogs shifted to more general historical matters; with ample time for reading, the posts became more detailed and thoroughly researched. Hopefully they were still helping to fulfil the Society’s aim of encouraging “the appreciation, study and enjoyment of History.” So there were pieces marking the 500th anniversary of the Field of Cloth of Gold; the 300th anniversary of the advent to power of Sir Robert Walpole, arguably the first Prime Minister; the centenary of the first live radio broadcast of a musical performance (by Dame Nellie Melba); and the 75th anniversary of local VE Day celebrations. The situation where a serving Prime Minister was laid low during a pandemic was compared with the parallel of 1918. A local dimension could be found to all these stories.

In the spring of 2021, inspired by the preparation for eventual exhibition of a set of magnificent doll’s houses and room settings, an All-Age “Amazing Spaces Challenge” was launched online. Adults and local schoolchildren were invited to create a shoebox-sized model of a room or living space, together with a short text, and email a photograph to Gold Hill Museum. Some of the entries will appear in a “Childhood”-themed temporary exhibition.

The opportunity was taken to use Edwardian photographs of Shaftesbury and District from the Museum’s own Tyler Collection, and to direct readers to the “Shaftesbury Remembers” website. Some interest was stirred by a post on the films likely to have been shown in 1920 at the Picture Palace in the High Street, leading to a follow-up about the original Rin Tin Tin. Previously unseen photographs of Coombe House (St Mary’s School until 2020) accompanied a post on the history of its builder, M.H. Beaufoy, a South London vinegar manufacturer with a passion for country sports. A Cambridge postgraduate student of the history of Country House Hotels found this useful.

In the circumstances the numbers of visitors to the website held up well. In any rolling three-month period during the year the most popular Blog, reviewing the evidence that Thomas Cromwell might have visited Shaftesbury Abbey (as imagined by Hilary Mantel), was viewed over 400 times. The most unusual response to a post, marking the centenary of the death of Sir Merton Russell-Cotes, Bournemouth hotelier and philanthropist, was a genuine offer by the author of a recently published Russell-Cotes biography (a major source for the piece) to donate a copy to the Museum Library. This was gratefully accepted.

The Buildings

Further to last year's report, in July all inside and outside work on the Beadster was satisfactorily completed.

Also as reported last year, the floors and the roof spaces in the museum were inspected and some signs of live woodworm activity in the floors and roof trusses was identified, also signs of deathwatch beetle in the roof beams. The floors in rooms 4 & 5 and the roof void timbers above rooms 4,5,6,7,8, were treated by Timberwise on 8/9 June. A 20-year guarantee is now in place. Some rotten floorboards were replaced in room 5.

Despite all efforts, it has not been possible to positively identify the origin of the ingress of rain via the kitchen area ceiling, as reported last year, but suspicions lead to an area of flat roof above the library, which will need to be properly inspected at some time. However, it is not easily accessible and will require ongoing consideration. Fortunately, despite some heavy downpours, there has been no significant water ingress since December 2019.

Three south facing windows on the first floor were in poor condition and required attention. The window in the Exhibition room was the worst and required repair to the wooden framework, which was rotted around the bottom. The window in Room 5 needed a new external sill and the office window also required attention to the external sill. All of the windows needed re-painting externally. All of the necessary work was satisfactorily completed by December 2020.

The temperature is regulated by a system of 2 ceiling mounted and 12 wall mounted conditioning units, plus two external condensing units. It became apparent that the system, which until about 2015 was serviced annually, had not been serviced for at least 5 years and needed to be done as a matter of urgency. Having discovered that the original installation/service engineers were no longer trading, quotes were obtained, Ambient Engineering from Bath were selected and successfully completed this work on 18 December.

Testing of the museum's fixed electrical circuitry and portable appliances was successfully completed and the necessary certification received from E.C. Electrical in January 2021. During the survey, there were some relatively minor issues identified by E.C. in the Beadster and, having obtained a quotation from them, they were instructed to carry out the work as soon as possible.

It was reported that there was a pile of earth/debris at the foot of the stone wall on the east boundary adjoining the Mitre public house decked area, at the end adjacent to the Church, and that the pile might have seeped through from a hole in the wall, which in turn could raise concerns about its safety. The wall at the place in question is about 4 metres (13 feet) in height and the pile of earth/debris perhaps 40cm (16") deep x 60cm (2 feet) wide. A trustee inspected and removed the pile, and it was clear that it had been there for some time and did not originate from the wall. As a result of the above, attention was drawn to the overall condition of the wall. Most of it had been re-pointed at some time in the past and appeared to be in good condition. However, the section at and above where the pile was situated, appeared not to have been re-pointed. Although there is no current sign of instability, or that it is in

imminent danger of collapse, it is in need of attention and re-pointing. The original mortar is either in poor condition or missing altogether.

Further to a report to a Trustee meeting, an inspection by David Wheeler of Woolley & Wallis, Chartered Surveyor was arranged. He agreed that the area of initial concern should be re-pointed, which would help to reinforce it. However, he considered that other parts of the wall further south are of more immediate concern and made recommendations regarding the wall and its repair, which he suggested we put to Young's Brewery. He doubted that the party walls act would be applicable in this case. The Trustees wrote to Young's on 19 March, expressing their concerns.

Marketing and Communications

In anticipation of a potential "staycation" boom in 2021, the Trustees decided to invest in a short, professionally-made promotional video. This was written by Trustees, shot in February 2021 and installed on YouTube, the Gold Hill Museum website's Home Page and Visit Dorset's Gold Hill Museum webpage in March. It rapidly clocked up several hundred viewings and was admired for its striking drone photography and positive representation of Dorset's highest hilltop town. South-West Federation of Museums liked it so much that it was featured in their email circulation of all member museums.

On Tuesday 13 October 2020, as part of the BBC's Culture in Quarantine strand, the BBC South Today regional news programme included a recorded report from Gold Hill, as a "smaller, quirkier museum." There was an immediate tenfold spike in hits on the Museum website, but no short-term dividend in increased visitor numbers as the Museum was by then closed.

Members of the Society gave a favourable reception to a bumper 34 page, full-colour, printed edition of "The Byzant" Newsletter in December 2020. This incorporated the minutes of the online AGM held in September and several well-researched articles on matters such as the Blue Plaque planned for nineteenth century Shastonian John Rutter, the story of the Ruhleben Internment Camp for Britons in Great War Germany, and the troubled life of petty criminal William Sims, transported to Australia in 1830. A Salisbury exile contributed Recollections of Shaftesbury Life 1937-59. Also acknowledged was the considerable achievement of one Society volunteer in researching and uploading to the "Shaftesbury Remembers" website the biographical details of over a thousand individuals recorded on local war memorials. This S&DHS site offers a fund of information about all aspects of Life in and around Shaftesbury during the era of the Great War, and inspires regular correspondence from family descendants seeking or offering updated information.

The evolving role of the News Blog on the Gold Hill Museum website is reported elsewhere. Over 470 subscribe to this Blog and 407 follow the Society's Facebook page, which benefits from being able to share many relevant stories from "The Alfred Daily". This popular podcast of local news and features is run pro bono by a professional journalist and travel writer, and includes Society Trustees among its regular broadcasters. Many of the GHM website pages provide useful information about Society activities, Museum exhibitions and facilities, though many were inevitably unavailable during the pandemic. The Anna McDowell Garden

Room was previously being booked by regular, mainly educational user groups on four days of the week, but could only be used by a maximum of ten observing Social Distancing, when permitted. There are ambitions to upgrade the Library and Archives page as part of a drive to reach out to the community from the foundation created by the cataloguing and conservation work of enthusiastic, socially distanced volunteers. The opportunity was also taken to upload all recent editions of "The Byzant".

Gold Hill Museum continues to be publicised in a tourist leaflet published jointly with the Abbey Museum and Gardens, and in a Museums Trail leaflet featuring several North Dorset museums. The trustees continue to pay for advertising space on the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Tourist Map.

Finance

The Year End bank account statements have been reconciled and the relevant Sage Account records and documents have been deposited, ready for Andrews and Palmer Accountants in Gillingham for the Annual Audit for the Charities Commission.

Donations/ Shop Sales

As we were only open for four weekends in August due to Covid restrictions, income from Donations and Shop sales was £543.33 and £618.99 respectively. Also we will not be able to put in a claim for 2020/21 under the *Gift Aid and Small Donations Scheme*; for 2019/20 we claimed £1455, paid in May 2020.

However, we did receive a grant of £25,000 from the Government, via Dorset Council, which offset the shortfalls described above.

Bank Balances:

So overall we are maintaining healthy bank balances:-

Community Account **£37,249.18**

Business Money Manager **£20,846.44**

M&G investment value dropped to £29,278 at 31st March 2020. This year there has been a recovery in the Stock Market and the value at the 31st March 2021 is **£37,935.79**

Full figures and comparisons are shown in the attached, audited accounts.

New Equipment

The new Zettle till system is in place with a card reader. This system is very user friendly for the stewards use and producing relevant reports for the accounts. Although the Museum was only able to open for a short time in August 2020, the till system was tested for the first time and proved an asset especially for card payments.

New monitors for visitors are in place. Cost £1566 to be partly funded with a Small Grant Big Improvement grant from SWFed of Museums.

New storage shelving and storage has been purchased for the refurbishment of the Library (partly funded with a grant of £500 from Dorset Museums Association).

Broadband Provider/ Telephone

We have changed our Broad Band Provider to XINIX with a much better contract from 30th March 2021. The Broadband connection is now fibre, ultrafast. BT were not able to respond to our Broadband update application efficiently. So far the new provider has been very helpful and efficient.

Funding

It has been a challenging and perhaps at times frustrating year.

The trustees can report that the SG:BI funding bid to the South-West Museum Development Programme in respect of new monitors was successful.

The terms of the agreement contained a number of commitments in terms of aims, objectives and actual process in order to satisfy the criteria and generate the release of the funds/grant. Although Covid-19 slowed down progress, the trustees are pleased to say that all stages of the process have now been completed and anticipate that the grant/funding in respect of the new monitors will be released in the near future.

A trustee is currently in dialogue with our Development Officer, Vicky Dewit, with a view to clarifying the museum's position as regards any eligibility in respect of 'recovery assistance' funding.

As regards the future and having successfully re-opened the museum to the public, it is the intention of the trustee with responsibility for funding to research opportunities of further developing the society's profile and service by investigating possible links with other 'bodies' in the Shaftesbury community, (in particular local schools).

This is presently at the thinking stage but as ideas take shape, they will be discussed in detail at future trustees' monthly meetings.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The annual fixed costs (rates, insurance, utilities, maintenance contracts) of running the Museum are in the region of £10,000. If the Museum must close for any reason, as demonstrated this year, we still have these bills to pay. The lift is necessary for enabling full access and would be expensive to replace. Substantial repairs to the fabric of the building may be needed at some time in the future. The Trustees have estimated a figure of 5% of the rebuild value plus £10,000 annual fixed costs as the contingency reserve.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

As we were unable to open for most of 2020, our main source of income was the £25,000 government grant issued via Dorset Council and based on rateable value.

The Museum has no loans and none of the Museum's assets (building and collection) is used as collateral. The Museum has just one site which is owned by the Society and the accounts cover all financial activity at that site.

Our investment policy is based on the principle of caution using a deposit account and a Charifund investment at present.

The Trustees thank all our donors, including our members, the general public and local businesses and groups, for their generosity. We also thank those local and regional businesses which offer concessional rates and those businesses who turn up at short notice to help us out in an emergency.

Section F

Other optional information

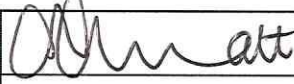

We plan to open on Spring Bank Holiday 31 May, two weeks after Government regulations will permit museums to do so. The short delay is to ensure that all our volunteers have been double vaccinated and to allow time for the necessary updating of existing stewards and induction of several new volunteers. It is hoped that we will be able to operate 10.30 – 16.30, seven days a week as normal.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Elaine Barratt	Linda Wilton
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer

Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE SHAFTESBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CIO

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
AS SET OUT ON PAGES 14 & 15

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act
- have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 6 August 21

Name:

Mr P L Bevis

Relevant professional qualifications:

FCA FCCA

Address:

Andrews & Palmer Ltd, Chartered Accountants,
32 The Square, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4AR



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2020	To	Period end date 31/03/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	868	-	-	868	11,907
Grants	25,500	-	-	25,500	-
Small Grant Big Improvement Project	-	-	-	-	-
Legacy	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	1,448	-	-	1,448	4,071
Education	-	-	-	-	46
Lecture Income	-	-	-	-	357
Members' Subscriptions	45	-	-	45	1,190
Outings	-	-	-	-	284
Rental Income	4,820	-	-	4,820	8,125
Sales	733	-	-	733	8,954
Other Income	-	-	-	-	1,245
Interest	8	-	-	8	42
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	33,422	-	-	33,422	36,221
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	33,422	-	-	33,422	36,221
A3 Payments					
Admin & Office Supplies	820	-	-	820	697
Business Rates	52	-	-	52	2,092
Collection & Gallery	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Goods Sold	726	-	-	726	4,682
Display & Exhibitions	19	-	-	19	273
Education	31	-	-	31	14
Garden	-	-	-	-	181
Information Technology	274	-	-	274	401
Insurance	3,882	-	-	3,882	2,906
Marketing	1,287	-	-	1,287	595
Membership Events & Expenses	16	-	-	16	529
Outing	-	-	-	-	250
Repairs & Maintenance	10,324	-	-	10,324	5,796
Short History Book Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions	280	-	-	280	135
Utilities	3,397	-	-	3,397	3,812
Training	-	-	-	-	55
Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Accountancy	720	-	-	720	-
Website	-	-	-	-	101
Other Expenditure	-	-	-	-	30
Small Grant Big Improvement Project	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	21,828	-	-	21,828	22,549
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Investment in Charifund	-	-	-	-	-
Computer	1,566	-	-	1,566	-
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	1,086	-	-	1,086	-
Sub total	2,652	-	-	2,652	-
Total payments	24,480	-	-	24,480	42,775
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,942	-	-	8,942	(6,554)
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	40,656	8,498	-	49,154	55,708
Cash funds this year end	49,598	8,498	-	58,096	49,154

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	49,598	8,498	-
	Cash in Hand	-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	49,598	8,498	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

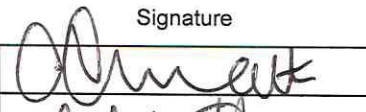

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Debtors	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Charifund Accumulation Units	Unrestricted	-	37,936
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Freehold Property	Unrestricted	-	675,000
	Fixtures & Fittings	Unrestricted	88,149	-
	Computers	Unrestricted	9,940	-
	Heritage Assets	Unrestricted	-	132,624
	Stock	Unrestricted	-	2,463
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Creditors	Unrestricted	276	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	E. Barratt	11.8.21
	L. Wilton	11.8.21